

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:33:44 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:33:44 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051531.KAA08010@audumla.students.wisc.edu>
From: cmthomp1@facstaff.wisc.edu (Clark M. Thompson)
Subject: \$125 for a DX-100?

Greetings everyone,

I have the opportunity to buy a "real nice" DX-100 for \$125. Is this a good deal? The seller can't say for sure that it works, but "all the tubes light up." He says it's about an 8 out of 10. What makes it nicer, is that he's willing to deliver it to my house!

It will be a challenge to find room for the 100lbs beast if I do go for it. Any thoughts or words of dis/encouragement welcome. Thanks.

73,

Clark, KD9QI

cmthomp1@mac.wisc.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:56:40 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:56:40 -0500
Message-Id: <2FD35155@smtpgate.rfc.comm.harris.com>
From: "Gable, Edward M" <emg@rfpo2.rfc.comm.harris.com>
Subject: RE: \$125 for a DX-100?

Clark - I'd go for it. You can't go wrong even if you play and re-sell in a little while. Delivery too !!

Ed K2MP @ Rochester
emg@rfc.comm.harris.com

+++++

I have the opportunity to buy a "real nice" DX-100 for \$125. Is this a good deal?

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:22:17 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:22:17 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950605151731.4192B-100000@crl9.crl.com>

From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>
Subject: 4Sale NC-98 with speaker

Any National collectors out there ? I have a nice clean working
National NC-98 and speaker for sale. \$125 plus shipping
de stan ak0b
e-mail via randyw@crl.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:40:36 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:40:36 -0500
Message-Id: <802393040.0143358@AppleLink.Apple.COM>
From: FRANCIS4@applelink.apple.com (Francis, Dexter)
Subject: 6KD6/700 to 800 B+ & -12 bias?

I'm gathering parts to build a 250 watt linear amp based on a project in an old
ARRL handbook. The circuit calls for two 6KD6's in parallel, a 600 volt B+ and
runs the tubes in a grounded grid configuration with the cathode bias at 11
volts above ground, via a 50 watt zener diode. The transformer I've got is a
Mil Spec Triad with 700 and 800 volts taps at 200 ma. The only 50 watt zener
diode I can find is 12 volts. This means I'd be running the tubes at a higher
plate voltages than the circuit calls for. Since I don't have the chart on the
6KD6's I'm in a bit of a quandry. Can anyone suggest an optimum bias level
given 700 to 800 volt plate voltage or forward me a copy of the 6KD6 curves?
Can I use the 12 volt zener and run the bias there, rather than at 11?

-df

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:39:53 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:39:53 -0500
Message-Id: <19BC91D1929@s1.xetron.com>
From: "Jack Giehl" <JACKG@s1.xetron.com>
Subject: 8298, misc comments

Dear BA enthusiasts,

I bought a parts Ranger for \$30 from a local ham club to use as
spare parts for my operating Ranger. It has an 8298 in the final.
Is that the same as a 6146B? It looks like a 6146B, but I don't
have a reference on that tube. Anyone know what it is?

Bob Scott mentioned he almost bought a Johnson Pacemaker.

Bob, you did the right thing by passing it up, in my opinion. I picked up a Pacemaker with a beautiful front panel \$80. It sort of worked on SSB, but I could never get better than about 15 to 20 db of crud reduction of the opposite sideband. I carefully checked the components in the phasing network, as well as the tubes, etc. I could get great rejection at single audio frequencies, but not over the entire voice range. Also, it didn't have 160 meters on it, which is my favorite winter band. I didn't want to sell it because it was in such good condition, but I just felt that it wouldn't get any use, so out it went.

It has been interesting to see all of the stuff that some of the BA members have. I share the philosophy that if I have it, I use it. I have three Johnson transmitters, a Valiant, Viking II w/122 vfo, and a Ranger. I use the Collins R-390A (with ER Klerononmos mod) with the Johnsons. I have a 75A4 and KWS-1 that I use on SSB and CW. I have a Drake C-line that gets use on SSB, CW, and even AM.

The Kenwood 940 gets used mostly as a frequency check device, although I can patch audio from the CBS Volumax broadcast limiter directly into the 940's balanced modulator and get decent audio on transmit.

I have switching for RF and speaker connections so that all I have to do to change stations is move two switches.

Jack

73,

=====
Jack, WB8BFS
jackg@xetron.com Loveland, Ohio (near Cincinnati)
=====

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:58:48 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:58:48 -0500
Message-Id: <"Macintosh */PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>
From: Scott_Johnson-AZAX60@email.sps.mot.com
Subject: RE>8298, misc comments

RE>8298, misc comments
8298=6883=12.6 V filament 6146

6/5/95

I bought a parts Ranger for \$30 from a local ham club to use as spare parts for my operating Ranger. It has an 8298 in the final. Is that the same as a 6146B? It looks like a 6146B, but I don't have a reference on that tube. Anyone know what it is?

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 14:21:45 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 09:21:45 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950605100012.1848A-1000000@laurel.us.net>
From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>

Re: Manassas, VA hamfest, 6-4-95

On Sun, 4 Jun 1995, Gary Chatters wrote:

> Here are a few BA items:

>

> Mohawk , \$100

> Marauder, \$100

> Drake 2B, \$85

> SX-117, spkr, \$175

> 51S1 \$800

> Johnson 6N2, w/ VFO \$30 (would take less)

And he did. I thought he wanted \$30 for the 6N2 VFO, so not having one for my 6N2, I offered \$25 for it. Imagine my surprise when I discovered that I had unknowingly negotiated for the 6N2 too! As it turns out, both are in fine condition except for an extra S0-239 on the back panel of the 6N2 and a couple of coax relay mounting holes.

If you don't believe in the fates, this should convince you otherwise: Just a few minutes before I came across the 6N2, I had just bought a big fist-full of 6 meter FT-243 crystals in anticipation of never finding a 6N2 VFO!

> HP608C \$35 (maybe that was a D, not sure)

> FRR-13 \$50

> Heath HR-20, HX-20, MT-1 \$275 for the set (if I read the

> sign right)

You did. Those were in nice shape too.

> TMC CFA-1 \$2 (I bought this one).

Also, a BC-610 antenna tuner (can't recall the "BC" designation at the moment) went for \$75 before my very eyes. If I had only gotten there two minutes sooner! :-(

An interesting non-boatanchor item that may help me get back on 75 meter AM was an apparent kw-class Collins HF 8040 antenna autotuner with Jennings vacuum variables and lots of mystery stuff in shielded compartments. It was priced at \$295 and was without the control cables, control box, and full manual, so I passed but took the guys name and phone number pending further research. Does anybody know what that beast is and whether or not it's usable as something other for parts?

73,
Tony
K4KY0

<ras@us.net>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 13:14:55 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 08:14:55 -0500
Message-Id: <1995DAC056D@s1.xetron.com>
From: "Jack Giehl" <JACKG@s1.xetron.com>
Subject: Re: A couple R-390A questions

Dear BA enthusiasts,

Bill asked the following concerning an R-390A speaker:

> Do I want a "hi-fi" type speaker, or one with deliberately
> limited frequency response? How big? You get the idea; I know
> nothing. :)

Bill, it all depends on what you are comfortable with. I like high fidelity audio. I use a pair of Infinity (the US speaker company, not the import car) speakers for ALL of my receivers (R-390A, 75A4, R4C, etc.). They sit on each end of the upper shelf above

my desk, and by using the pair the sound seems to emanate directly out of the center of the receiver with tremendous quality.

I installed the ER hi-fi audio mod to my R-390A. I had to tweak the cathode bias circuit a little. The results are great! Good quality AM stations sound as good as FM when the BW is set to 16 kc. The output impedance after the ER mod is 8 ohms, so I don't have to mess around with transformers.

A friend of mine uses an amplified computer type speaker with his R-390A. It has a fairly high input impedance, and sounds pretty good.

Otherwise, you'll have to find a 600 ohm to 8 or 4 ohm transformer and use it to drive your speaker.

Jack

73,

=====
Jack, WB8BFS
jackg@xetron.com Loveland, Ohio (near Cincinnati)
=====

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:00:16 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:00:16 -0500
Message-Id: <1A028F312DC@s1.xetron.com>
From: "Jack Giehl" <JACKG@s1.xetron.com>
Subject: Re: A couple R-390A questions

Dear BA enthusiasts,

Mike wanted a short description of the ER Hi-Fi mod for the 390A.

Mike, the mod involves adding a 6360 dual tetrode wired for push-pull, adding an output transformer available from Antique Electronic Supply, and rewiring audio components on the audio module.

The mod took me about 4 hours. It has negative feedback, and provides about 6 to 10 watts of clean audio, with an 8 ohm output impedance. I don't find the sharp skirt response of mechanical filters objectionable. Can't say if the audio mod has any effect on that.

Jack

73,

=====
Jack, WB8BFS
jackg@xetron.com Loveland, Ohio (near Cincinnati)
=====

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:42:57 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:42:57 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051852.AA19032@ihurry.ih.att.com>
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: A couple R-390A questions

Say Jack, could you give a short description of the ER Hi-Fi mod for the R390A? Sound slike it involves negative feedback from the output transformer. And maybe removing the small amount of POSITIVE feedback in the driver?

Does it help the harsh ringing of the mechanical filters?

The R390A is one of the few rcvrs with just enough audio gain, meaning too little to screw around with negative feedback. I added simple feedback to my 129X (hot speaker lead back to teh output tube cathode) and it cleaned up the sound like a million bucks. But that set, like most radios, had way more than enuf raw gain to sacrifice some.

On the product detector mod, on a weak station I get barely enuf audio gain out of the R390A as it is. It came with that RatShack line-audio transformer -- I haven't played with the taps to see if I can get it to do better. Why don't they mark those taps in Ohms instead of watts or volts?

And I use a tiny RatShack speaker made for surround-sound video.

I do have an old set of MONO headphones, with 1/4 inch jack and failry poor freq response, originally made for language labs. Perfect to plug into a BA for SSB and CW reception. --mike k w9nrd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:56:25 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:56:25 -0500
Message-Id: <92083C6B0D@sbii.sb2.pdx.edu>
From: RANDY@sbii.sb2.pdx.edu

Subject: Re: A couple R-390A questions

>Date: Fri, 2 Jun 1995 23:54:26 -0500
>Reply-to: bill@cruz.com
>From: Bill VanAlstyne <bill@cruz.com>
>To: Multiple recipients of list <boatanchors@theporch.com>
>Subject: A couple R-390A questions
>
>First, thanks to Jack, WB8BFS, for the info that original, pristine R-390A
>manuals are available from NTIS for \$30. Sounds worthwhile to me. Also
>appreciate the other offers received of copies, etc... Think I'll go for
>the
>new manual....
>
>Bill, N6FN
>bill@cruz.com
>
>

Well I missed it - where and how does one obtain a new R390A manual from
NTIS? Are R390 manuals available too?

Thanks,

=Randy=
WB6MAI

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 01:38:34 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 20:38:34 -0500
Message-Id: <9506060136.AA20935@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
From: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan)
Subject: Re: A couple R-390A questions

Well I missed it - where and how does one obtain a new R390A manual from
NTIS? Are R390 manuals available too?

Warning: recent post told of how NTIS was out of the manual the poster had
ordered, and had NO information on when more would be available.

NTIS (National Technical Information Service)
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161
info: 703-487-4650
order: 800-336-4700
document identification branch: 703-487-4780

-- Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
(National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS)
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:35:52 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:35:52 -0500
Message-Id: <n1409774154.6829@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: Another Hammerlund owner

As a young ham, I was able to do my first "good" trade by selling an S38D, and turning around and getting for the money, a prewar Hammerlund Super Pro SP-210, the LF model that then only goes to 20 MHz. These were later the BC-779 in the war, but mine is documented that it was prewar, then bought in the Phillipines, and brought back to TX. If it only could talk! The unit is of course rack mount, and I have the military 110 VAC BC-779 power supply for it, and a short relay type rack, and the 600 ohm speaker with huge magnet assembly, probably pre Alnico. The Hammerlund was far more selective than the 38, and probably sensitive as well. The crystal filter and variable bandwidth IF was also a plus.

At that time the HQ-100 had come out, and I was mesmerized by the cast front panel look. Somewhere in those years I had seen a photo of a Racal RA-17? that had the WHOLE chassis cast or machined out of one block, so I became convinced that was helpful to having a stable receiver, and if you could not have the chassis that solid, at least the panel would be.

Never did get that 100 or the 110 I liked; but awhile back in return for helping settle an estate, I got a bargain on a HQ-180A in very good condition, and working well. There is a slight browning of one of the tuning dial cards, does anyone know if that is reverseable? The 180 is a LOT heavier and bigger, and more solid than a 100 or 110, and I did not realize that until I went to load it into the car for the trip home!

Did anyone ever take these to a Field Day?

73, Stuart K5KVH
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:52:18 1995

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:52:18 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051853.AA05664@freenet.vcu.edu>
From: nduc@freenet.vcu.edu (Nguyen Duc)
Subject: Re: Another Hammerlund owner

Stuart: Since the numbers are not printed on both sides of the dial plastic discs, I do not think that you can reverse them. My guess is that you may have one of the dial light positioned too close to the disc . So be careful not to burn the other one.
73, duc.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 13:22:08 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 08:22:08 -0500
Message-Id: <m0sIc4a-0010KWC@spider.lloyd.com>
From: jml@spider.lloyd.com (Jim Lockwood)
Subject: BA switching mechanisms

In the recent thread about actually using BA radios, I noticed a few mentions of means by which one might select from among several TX/RX combinations. I have tried (and failed at) using various manual coaxial switching schemes, and as often as not ended up loading a transmitter into.....nothing. So, after doing this enough times for it to have become both annoying and embarrassing, I decided to come up with something that is "idiot proof".....and of course I had the perfect "beta tester" right here on site....me.

This is what I came up with:

First off, I connected all my receivers together on a coaxial bus. This means that all receivers always have an antenna connected all the time. No matter which receiver I sit down in front of, I'm assured that there is an antenna connected.

I can imagine what you are thinking....what about the effects of one receiver's tuned input circuits on the next receiver down stream. Good question. And there is some interaction. I've found, though, that if I locate my Drake receivers (I have two) at the end of the bus, the rest of the receivers (mainly hallicrafters, but also Heath and National can tap into the bus anywhere and all play happily.

For my transmitters, I built an antenna relay box. It has one connection for an antenna, 5 connections for transmitters, and one connection for a

receiver. The relays are wired sequentially as follows: The first relay in the sequence connects to the Antenna connector, and to one Transmitter connector. The "receiver" connection of this relay goes directly to the "antenna" connection of the next relay down stream and is not brought out externally. This daisy chain scheme continues through all relays in the box. The last relay in the sequence connects to the input of the receiver antenna bus I described above.

Each relay in the box has a dedicated 110V line that goes to the transmitter with which it is associated.

In operation, then, whenever I key any single transmitter, that transmitter energizes its relay in the box and automatically "grabs" the antenna for its own use, to the exclusion of any "downstream" transmitter connected to the box.

This means that I never have to think about what's connected to what before beginning to operate. And with my track record of loading a transmitter into short pieces of coax, this is a real rig-saver.

I carry this idiotproofing one step further....I also use multi-band antennas to further reduce the likely hood that I'll screw something up because of my forgetfulness.

So this is how I solved what was for me the annoying problem of keeping track of what the antenna is connected to and what is safe to operate. It may not be a useful technique for everyone, but it has sure saved my rigs on more than one occasion.

73,

Jim - km6nk

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:45:14 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:45:14 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051536.AA29799@us2rnc.zko.dec.com>
From: harlan@csoa1.enet.dec.com
Subject: BA USE/BA AUDIO

Hello All,

I have been into BA's since Desert Shield and have acquired quite a few receivers since that time. It soon became clear that to have a separate speaker for each receiver was going to take a considerable investment in cash and space and didn't really allow direct comparison

of a rig's attributes (or short falls). It also seemed that all I was "Hearing" was the difference between a 6AQ5 driving a 4" enclosed speaker vs. push pull 6V6's feeding a 6X9 oval speaker magnetically stuck to the back of the rig, or to put it another way, any radio sounds like AN/GRC9 when it's hooked to an LS166!

Just to establish some sort of consistent "sound", I decided to try to feed all the receiver audio through a Stereo Tuner/Amp device. and to feed a pair of decent BA speakers with that. The Amp I found is an old Bogen Solid State 30w X 2 job and the speakers ended up being National 8" types from the HR060 series.

To eliminate the "Audio Colorization" from all the different receiver output stages I just pick off audio via a 1uF cap from the Diode Load. With T pads for isolation and level control these leads go to the unbalanced line inputs of an old Peavey 16 channel mixer. The mixer feeds the AUX inputs of the Bogen Amp. This method is quite flexible, easy to work with, simplifies T/R Audio muting problems, and, depending on the features in the mixer can allow multichannel crossband linking and a variety of TX Audio "Sources". It also seems to me to be the only "Fair" way to compare BA's to one another in real time. How one RX's AGC tracks as compared to another, How X's IF strip sounds quieter than Y's and B's detector makes more audio than C's, etc etc..

Just as important as getting the outputs consistent, is getting the inputs the same. I use a MINI-CIRCUITS 1 in 8 out 50 ohm divider on each of my 3 antennas. this gives me 24 50 ohm feeds 200kc to 50 mhz with lots of isolation port to port.

Anyone else doing anything like this ? How many RX's can you roll onto a frequency and use at the same time ? The main downside of this setup is by the time you get all the cabling and connectors purchased, "you coulda had a BA". The upside is you can hear the calibrator in the NC300 on any rig! A friend of mine refers to my setup as "Triple Diversity, Dual Synchronous, Double redundant reception with liaison capability". :^)

73 es Keep em Flying
Dan Harlan
N8ETQ Cleve., Oh.

P.S. Yes I use all my BA's, at the same time, All the time!

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:03:25 -0500
Message-Id: <01HRCCXP61WY9K0XE4@RANDB.PPRD.Abbott.Com>
From: KANAMAA%AMGATE%MATRXA@randb.abbott.com
Subject: BA's in use

From: Kana, Michael (D9CY)
Date: Mon, Jun 5, 1995 10:10 AM
Subject: BA's in use
To: bigboats
Howdy all

Well, out of the gear I have, this is what I use...

HRO 50 T for general listening and goofing off.
LTV 145 for listening to 30-300mc
CEI CV1750 to let the LTV get to 1GHz
Nems Clarke REU300B backup for the 1750
Heath DX100B
Collins S Line
Hammarlund HQ150

The following gear is in the que for restoration to some degree...
EAC R390A ready to go to miltronix for restoration
National NC303
Collins 75A1,75A2
ATC (ART13)
Numerous ARC5's

Though not boatanchors, the following vintage solid state...
WJ 340A VLF
ACL receiver with plugins for 2-500mhz.

de AA9IL
Mike Kana

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 21:53:08 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 16:53:08 -0500
Message-Id: <950605170528_71407.1774_FHV28-2@CompuServe.COM>
From: "Joseph J. Curry" <71407.1774@compuserve.com>
Subject: BA's Wanted

>From the recent thread about whether people actually "use" this equipment as opposed to just collecting it, I was happy to see the many responses from "users". I am definitely a user and enjoy restoration and ultimately getting the equipment on the air.

I am still looking for a Central Electronics 100V or 200V to add to the stable of on-air equipment. I know that there is at least one of these in the bottom of some ham's closet out there!

In addition, I am also looking for the following for a friend, also an active user of vintage ham gear:

Heath SB220/221 linear amp (3-500Zs)

Squires Saunders SS-1R receiver

Check into that equipment pile that you haven't been able to get to and see if any of these items lurk therein.

Please respond via e-mail to: 71407.1774@compuserve.com

Thanks,

Joe KE6LFT (ex-K3IC0)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:46:21 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:46:21 -0500
Message-Id: <950605231046_71407.1774_FHV129-1@CompuServe.COM>
From: "Joseph J. Curry" <71407.1774@compuserve.com>
Subject: BAs in Orlando

Greetings to All:

I will be heading back to Florida for a wedding in early July (7-9) and I was wondering if any BA aficionados could recommend any "must see" spots in the Orlando area. I would be interested in ham stores with BA equipment, surplus dealers, swap meets, or individuals with "old gear" to sell.

Please respond via e-mail to: 71407.1774@compuserve.com

Thanks,

Joe KE6LFT

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:54:09 1995

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:54:09 -0500
Message-Id: <PMX-TERM-2.02-bsm2ee1-thaake-214>
From: thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com (thaake)
Subject: BAs in use

Gang,

My working stations are:

Collins R-388 Receiver
B&W T-368C Transmitter & tuner

Globe Champion 350 (w/audio mods) Transmitter
National HR0-50

Globe King 400 Transmitter (plug-in coil mania)
HQ-170 Receiver

Globe King 500 Transmitter & 755 VFO
National NC-183

Gonset G-66B
Gonset G-67
(The "Chrome Twins")

Gonset G-50 (6 meters)

Polycom -2 (2 meters)

For SSB:

Collins KWS-1
2 each 75A4s

Needing attention:

Gonset G-76 Xcvt/supply
National NC-173
Gonset Super Six/Super-Ceiver
Gonset Commander & supply
Johnson Viking II & VFO

Military Projects:
(Goal is to have a complete dynamotor station with the following)

Command sets

(have 3 receivers on a rack with remote head, rcvrs for BC/40M/80M)
(transmitter on single rack for 80M with head, had the screen modulator
but let a friend talk me outta it)

ART-13 and dynamotor

ARR-15/R-105A (51H3?) & dynamotor
(really need a 348 for this one I guess but the ARR-15 is outstanding)

Technical Material

SBE-9 Exciter
(not sure wat or why I got this)

I have suffered from project overload. I recently got rid of more than I listed above. Never had the intentions of "collecting" for the sake of it. I just came up with the stuff so easy that I couldn't pass on taking it home. Gone are the days of Johnsons for \$5 I guess, anyway that's why I had a ton of it. After a while it bugged me so much that it started to go. I'll regret it some day when I do finally have the time. I think if I'm going to own this stuff I ought to use it so the plan is to divide again but it is hard to figure out just what. Sorta like loosing an arm or fingers or something....

Tim WA0TSY

thaake@bsm2ee1.attmail.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:42:55 1995

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:42:55 -0500

Message-Id: <115680@w5ddl.aara.org>

From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org

Subject: BC-348 DC Power Input Ans

In reply to what I think was a message sent just to me, here is the answer.

On the BC-348, the 28V DC is input at pins 3 or 4 for positive, and 7 or 8 for negative.

73 de tom

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 10:38:21 1995

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 05:38:21 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9506051253.A12192-0100000@inet.uni-c.dk>
From: MEC <danmec@inet.uni-c.dk>
Subject: BC-348 variations ? Info Please.

What is the significance of the " SC " stamps on US Signal Corps radio equipment ? The usual form of these consists of SC+ number + suffic letter.

Some equipments contaion several differnet stamps. Where these numbers issued to different workshops or individials ? Can they be used to date old surplus gear of this era ?

Any ideas ?

73 Rag OZ8RO

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:11:59 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:11:59 -0500
Message-Id: <d0aSTbh0000000000000@MHS>
From: RICHARD_HUMPHREY@hp5200.desk.hp.com
Subject: RE: Black caps

Item Subject: SP-600 "black tubular" caps

Steve Byan wrote:

>I recall some discussson here about the high failure rate of the black
>tubular paper caps in the SP-600. . . .

>I assume that this type of capacitor has a high failure rate in equipment
>other than just SP-600's. . . .

Those things have a high failure rate anywhere there's electricity.
They contain some sort of design flaw which leads them to leak or short
when voltage is applied.

>I've been working on an HP-650A test oscillator; it's got paper caps that
>have a black plastic case, axial leads, color-coded band markings, about
>1/2 inch diameter and 2 inches long (or there-about). Are these the
>infamous "black tubulars"? So far, they seem to be intact and working.
>Should I replace them with mylar caps as a preventative measure?

That's one of them. WW2 gear used a rectangular flat black plastic cap
which is known to fail after 50 years. There's also a variation of the
tubular by Sprague (the Atom series?) which is a turkey. They shouldn't
be trusted in circuits where a short would cause smoke. As everyone

knows, when the smoke escapes from a part, it no longer works.

I'm fixing up a Tek 516 scope. It had a total of two Sprague black plastic caps in it and one of them would turn into a resistor when voltage was applied. 50% failure rate. I changed both of them to film types and that got most of the bugs out of it.

I remember a friend working in an audio service shop in the '70s griping about these things. The rule was to replace them all before doing any troubleshooting. I had forgotten about that re the 516, and wasted a bit of time until I was reminded to change them first. (TNX Bob Morgan!)

You should probably change them, just to be safe. They will croak sooner or later.

Richard
N6NAE

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 16:03:39 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 11:03:39 -0500
Message-Id: <01HRCEY0GB8I9KORUO@RANDB.PPRD.Abbott.Com>
From: KANAMAA%AMGATE%MATRXA@randb.abbott.com
Subject: Chicago surplus

From: Kana, Michael (D9CY)
Date: Mon, Jun 5, 1995 11:08 AM
Subject: Chicago surplus
To: bigboats
Howdy all

Re an earlier posting

The only known surplus/boatanchor dealer is Radio TV Labs which I think is on Irving Park on the northside. I want to go to this place sometime because it is literally packed to the roof with stuff. Another surplus test equipment outfit is JB electronics in Skokie. Thats it as far as I know. Oh, to have those Radio Row days back again!

73 de AA9IL
Mike Kana

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 00:27:35 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 19:27:35 -0500
Message-Id: <9506060025.AA00339@kali>
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>

Subject: Contoocook NH report

Well, I went to the Contoocook NH fest on 5/4/95... Here are some of the interesting things I saw:

RCA	AR-60-R receiver	\$25 negotiable	dirty/complete
Collins	75S-1 receiver	\$350!	w/Waters rejection, clean
Millen	90711 VFO	\$40	clean
Millen	? tabletop mon. scope	??	same table as VFO
Johnson	Viking 6+2 rx converter	\$20	
Hammarlund	KH-1B keyer	\$20	
Collins	75A-2	\$150	or B/O, rather beat panel
Multi-Elmac	PMR-7 receiver	?	
Hammarlund	SP-400-SX rx, p.s.	offers,	from Silent Key estate

It was rather pathetic, actually, with only a row-and-a-half of dealers. It had been raining, however, and didn't clear up until about ten miles south of Contoocook (we were coming from the South). Perhaps next year, if there's better weather, it will be a better turn-out. I found some useful stuff so I guess I'll make the drive again!

We got there about three minutes too late. It was supposed to open at 8:00 a.m. but everything was open when we got there at 7:55. No doubt they pitied the hardy souls who braved the rain to get there. As it was, they didn't even charge the \$2 buyer's admission unless you wanted a raffle ticket!

Anyway, we were just a leeetle too late, because the first table we saw had the Millen VFO and monitor scope. I'd never seen the tabletop monitor scope before, but the VFO was featured in the latest (May, 1995) issue of Electric Radio. I felt sorry I had missed it ... it was clean and would have been a boon to this rock-bound ham. The VFO went for \$40 and the monitor scope was already in the fellow's hand when I got there.

I'd never seen the Johnson 6/2m receive converter before. It is a strange oblong box with rounded corners, almost a foot deep and about eight high, I'd guess. \$20 was the asking price...I didn't bite.

I picked up a Navy remote control in case anyone can use it. It's a screw-to-the-bulkhead remote control, "part of model MN radio equipment," and perhaps 5" square by a couple deep. It has PHONE and SPEAKER volume controls, an ON/OFF switch, and red and green lights labelled REC and TRANS. The connectors are: octal and 4-pin (bottom), and three-pin (top). Can anyone use it? Authentic looking dust is included at no extra charge....the outside is pretty nice. Contract date

is 4/20/42. I think we should all buy these small items "just in case" some other List member needs 'em....I hope whoever has an MN radio set can use this. What's an MN, by the way? <grin>

Small items: got an Eico direct voltmeter probe, which I'm actually going to use with my Heath IO-102 scope...a box of tubes for \$2, of which I only needed the 12BY7....a 12AT7 for the Central Electronics VOX unit (thanks again, Pete!) to go in my CE-20A exciter...and the best "find" for me after the "loss" of the Millen VFO: a Trio model VFO-1 VFO! This is about the size of the Heath HG-10 VFO turned sideways. It covers 80-6m and even has a crystal socket on the front panel. It actually WORKS. Rather pretty, too. Half-moon dial with reasonable calibration, blue case, blue and brushed steel faceplate. Alas, no keyed output so I will be flipping the thing into standby when using it with my Drake 2-NT. But I'm no longer rockbound!!! Anyone got a manual for this, or a history on it? I am assuming that this Trio is related to Trio-Kenwood. For all I know it may be the VFO Drake was supposed to have put out for the 2-NT. (Didn't Drake import a Trio-Kenwood radio as the TR-22?) I also got a pair of Novice rocks (7110, 7106.667) as well. Last but not least an LS-166 600 Ohm loudspeaker for \$3. So ... \$40 and about 40 mosquito bites later, it was a reasonably successful trip considering the number of dealers. By the way, there was an antique flea market adjoining the ham one, and we walked through there in about ten minutes. Equally pathetic...must be the rain...though my brother got a good deal on some rhubarb!

But back to what I let get away: the RCA AR-60R. Check Moore's COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVERS book; it's in there. I had never heard of it before now. Boy, what a boatanchor. At \$25 it's about 30c a pound. This thing appeared to be complete, except a crystal socket near the back was empty. The dial has got to be one of the strangest I've seen. It was 0-100 scales for both main tuning and bandsread. The pointers themselves were big rectangular arms with small windows in the ends, with hairlines to point at the numbers. The main tuning/bandsread scales aren't concentric; they overlap slightly. Weird. Still, the thing was all there, and the controls worked, and he WOULD have taken less than \$25.....naaaaaaah! Not another project, Wallace! I saw it at another dealer's table later anyway. (The one with the \$350 75S-1.) Oh, the thing covered 1500 kHz - 25 MHz.

The 75A-2 appeared to be complete and had a case. The front panel was worn in spots, especially around the screws. Wonder what it sold for?

The SP-400-SX was rather unusual. I should bring Moore's book with me. The SX model covered 1.25 - 40 MHz. This had the same-size-as-receiver power supply, so I passed on it!

Hope this ramble was interesting to you!

--Andy

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 04:52:12 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 23:52:12 -0500
Message-Id: <F65N4800.F65N4811@mail.admin.wisc.edu>
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: Crystal Detectors

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Greetings, Troops.

Steve Pazer brought up an interesting subject, cat's whisker type crystal detectors. I've been looking for such an item of late, to use with an old fashioned loose coupler that I came up with.

It doesn't look like it would be too hard to make such a detector stand, but I have a different problem, something that the chemists on BOATANCHORS might be able to talk about.

The traditional crystal detector uses a chunk of semiconductor (galena, iron pyrite, etc.) which is cast into a small slug of metal. My first thought was to make such a critter at my ammunition reloading bench, simply putting the detector material in the lead / tin / antimony mix that many handloaders use for casting hard pistol bullets.

Not good. It seems that the stuff overheats the detector material, and it ain't a detector anymore.

An OT told me that the old detectors were cast into metals with a much lower melting point than lead, like a few hundred degrees or so.

I'm ashamed to admit that I just barely escaped from high school chemistry with my hide. From it tho I do remember something about low melting point alloys; the name "Wood's Metal" seems to stick in my memory, and I think there were a lot of others, some of which might be just the ticket for this application.

I also remember that some of them were dangerous from a poison standpoint, and others had somewhat exotic ingredients that it would be difficult for the average ham to lay his/her greedy paws on.

Can any of you with chemistry knowledge out there make some suggestions re. a suitable "potting" metal for detector slugs?

As far as detector material is concerned:

A few years back I played tourist in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Most everyone who visits out there comes back with chunks of iron pyrite ("Fool's Gold"); the stuff is sold all over the place as souvenirs.

Fool's gold it may be, but it makes a DYNAMITE crystal detector! Clamping it in a Panavise (with the plastic jaw protectors removed) tied to an antenna and probing the surface of the rock with a headset tip plug (other tip plug grounded), almost the entire surface of a typical sample is a good detector, tho especially hot spots are apparent.

In western Wisconsin, we used to mine a lot of lead. Wherever you have lead mining, you've got a lot of waste material, much of which is galena. It can be found scattered all over the ground in many areas, and it too is an excellent detector material. In the test setup previously described it worked fine, but it seemed to be a bit touchier than the iron pyrite.

For the more avant-garde types, there's the old WW2 classic, the "Razor Blade Radio". Gillette "Blue Blades" have an oxide coating on thier surface that makes them fair, but not great, detectors. A blade set up to use a pencil lead as a cat whisker works fairly well. Supposedly, these things were used by GIs as foxhole entertainment rigs, and allegedly also used in POW camps by the prisoners (I suppose the GIs were so entertained by these things while on watch that they didn't notice they were being taken as prisones of war until it was too late!).

73's,

Tom, K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 21:07:14 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 16:07:14 -0500
Message-Id: <8F7E8636DA@sbii.sb2.pdx.edu>
From: RANDY@sbii.sb2.pdx.edu
Subject: Re: Dayton R-390 follow-up

Dear Rich,

One thing I have found to be often bad, and often overlooked, is leakage from the AC line filter to ground on the R-390. Alas these are sealed units and a pain to ressurect. For a test if you use a 3:2 AC adapter and don't ground the center pin on it (i.e. back to the 2-wire cord), check for voltage from ground to the chassis. I've been able to get quite a bite from the chassis of an ungrounded R-390 (and R-390A) with a leaky filter.

Have fun,

=Randy=
WB6MAI

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:08:45 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:08:45 -0500
Message-Id: <"d0aSWV=0000000000*"@MHS>
From: RICHARD_HUMPHREY@hp5200.desk.hp.com
Subject: Re: Dayton R-390 follow-up

Randy sez:

>One thing I have found to be often bad, and often overlooked, is leakage
>from the AC line filter to ground on the R-390. Alas these are sealed units
>and a pain to ressurect. For a test if you use a 3:2 AC adapter and don't
>ground the center pin on it (i.e. back to the 2-wire cord), check for
>voltage from ground to the chassis. I've been able to get quite a bite from
>the chassis of an ungrounded R-390 (and R-390A) with a leaky filter.

I don't know about them often being bad, but they definately must be
checked for shorts before plugging in a new BA for the first time.

Any radio with caps from the AC line to chassis will have some leakage.
That includes the caps inside these filter modules, which means that
even the good ones will have some leakage to the chassis.

A 0.1 uF cap at 60Hz is only about 27K ohms which is enough to make
the chassis give you a tingle. That's why the manual says to ground
the radio before plugging it in.

Test before plugging in! Ohmmeter from the chassis to all the pins
of the power cord. Only the ground pin better have conductivity.

(Last Saturday, I bought a transformer for a low-voltage outdoor lite
system. Plugged it in and was rewarded with a shower of sparks. The
hot pin of the line cord was dead shorted to the metal case. Wow!!!!
And it had a 2-wire line cord! Luckily, I mounted it on something
grounded. Otherwise, I might have discovered this nightmare the hard
way. I very carefully tested the replacement before plugging it in!)

Richard
N6NAE

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:26:40 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:26:40 -0500
Message-Id: <9506052230.AA21172@texan.frco.com>
From: bill@texan.frco.com (William Hawkins)
Subject: Re: Dayton R-390 follow-up

The filter isn't leaky - it's the capacitive reactance that bites you.
The best thing to do is ground the receiver, otherwise disconnect the
filter. Disconnect the filter if you must use a GFI outlet.

This oughtta be in the FAQ ...

Bill Hawkins bill@bvc.frco.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 01:46:54 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 20:46:54 -0500
Message-Id: <199506060145.AA05876@ns-1.csn.net>
From: wkleros@csn.net (Bill Kleronomos)
Subject: re:Do You use your BAs?

Please allow me to contribute to the biggest thread running on BA--
Yes!

AM & CW STATION

Mostly used TX is ART-13

Secondary TX (after 10 PM on 160 & 80 for obvious reasons) Homebrew KW
consisting of a Ranger I driving a class C 304-TL triode and a pair of 810s
in class B modulator service.

CW ACCESSORIES

1994 Vibroplex paddle & Hallicrafters T0 Keyer (used mostly)

2 Vibroplex bugs: One 1920s era, black & gold japanned base, one 1950 flat
pendulum original standard.

RECEIVERS IN REGULAR USE

Teledyne R-390A (modified)

Hammarlund SP600JX-17

Hallicrafters SX-28A

ARC-5 set R-23 w/dynamotor for LF

ARC-5 set R-24 for general BCB use

Hallicrafters S-36A for FM broadcast enjoyment

SSB STATION

Collins S-Line 32S-1 TX; 75S-3A RX

Johnson Thunderbolt Linear

MOBILE STATION (in Ford Pickup)

Gonset G-76 AM transceiver
Ant: Texas Bug Catcher

73 DE Northern Colorado - 12 miles due North of Boulder!
Bill, KD0HG/Mobile (75M AM worked TWELVE STATES -mobile!)
- - - BoatAnchor Mailing List User- - -
wkleros@csn.net-"cremed en mi boatanheur de collins"

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 13:19:25 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 08:19:25 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051316.AA17490@freenet.vcu.edu>
From: nduc@freenet.vcu.edu (Nguyen Duc)
Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

Hi!

It would be interesting to know how many us (BA's) are
Hammarlund users so that we can start some discussions about
these receivers. I guess the Halls and National users must have
had the same thought.

Regards.

>

>Interesting question, how many of the BA collectors are users of the
>equipment ? Yes, I am also quilty. I have a SP-600 JX17 and use it
>for SWling. It sits in my workshop, but have never used it for an
>on the air amateur radio qso. I also use BC-453's for monitoring
>LowFer activity.

>

>So... Do you use your BA ? How ?

>

>Do you have a BA xmitter go with the receiver ? What kind of transmitter
>goes well with a BA receiver.

>

>At present I am looking for a R-390A receiver. Another BA, however,
>I plan on using this one for CW along with my solid state homebrew
>transmitters. I alos hope to use it with my Millen 50 watt CW transmitter.

>

>de stan ak0b

>e-mail via randyw@crl.com

>

>

>

>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 14:42:58 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 09:42:58 -0500
Message-Id: <950605103956_86704647@aol.com>
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

Yes, I certainly do use my boatanchors!

I have these HF receivers setup through a military multicoupler:

- 51S-1
- 51J-4
- 75S-3B
- 75A-4
- HQ-215
- NC-300
- PRC-47

On six meters, I have the following setup through a B & W six position coax switch to my beam:

- SB-110
- RT-1113A/PRC-68A & MXF-327
- PolyComm 6
- PRC-77

I use a PRC-66 to monitor mil aero frequencies (anyone out there on AM on 1 1/4 meters?).

Also have PRC-6, -10A, -25, -36, -40, -41, -47, -75.

Also have a PRC-74B complete with all accessories which I often take with me when I travel. A little bid, but fun to use.

I have a Poly Comm 2 that I intend to get up and running once I have installed a 2 meter beam.

Joseph Pinner +
KC5IJD
EMail: josephwp@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 14:50:34 1995

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 09:50:34 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950605104104.1848C-1000000@laurel.us.net>
From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>
Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

On Sun, 4 Jun 1995, Steven Wilson wrote: <randyw@crl.com>

> Interesting question, how many of the BA collectors are users of
> the equipment ?

I don't consider myself a collector, but rather I'm more of an
"accumulator" as there's no method to what I bring home. I just have to
like it and it has to work, or be restorable to a condition where it
will. The latter implies my answer. Yup!!! :-)

73,
Tony
K4KY0

<ras@us.net>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:11:19 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:11:19 -0500
Message-Id: <950605110914_60606275@aol.com>
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

>>>
It would be interesting to know how many us (BA's) are
Hammarlund users
>>>

I am a Hammarlund user. Only have two at the moment - an HQ-215 is good
shape, and a HQ-180AX which needs a good bit of resotration though it does
work. It is unusual in that it is a rack mounted unit (originally purchased
by the Coast Guard). The front panel is in poor share which quite a bit of
the dial markings rubbed off due to constant use. Know anyone with a spare
HQ-180A front panel (Robert Folwe doesn't have any).

The HQ-215 is used rather frequently in my shack.

Joseph Pinner +
KC5IJD

EMail: josephwp@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:42:53 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:42:53 -0500
Message-Id: <v0211010aabf8d0fab29d@[140.243.30.128]>
From: steve@hi.com (Steve Byan)
Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

I use a vintage-solid-state CU-1388/FLR-9 receiver multicoupler feeding several shortwave receivers, including a R90A which I use for SWL DXing. I'm planning on getting a second R390A and setting up a space-diversity receiving setup for the 60 and 90 meter tropical-band African broadcast stations using two Beverage antennas. I'm restoring a Heathkit W-4M mono tube amp for the audio; currently I use one channel of a Dynaco Stereo-70.

I also put together an electronics lab, with a vintage solid-state Tek 465 scope and HP410C multimeter, and hollow-state Heath IM-11 VTVM, HP400H AC VTVM, HP200CD and HP200CR audio oscillators, HP650A test oscillator (10 Hz - 10MHz), and HP202A low-frequency function generator. I'm looking for an HP606A as the next aquisition. I'm hacking around with a scheme for remote-controlling the termination of a Beverage antenna, so the lab equipment is getting some use.

Never had a ham license, though I wore out a '64 ARRL Handbook and a VHF Manual when I was a kid. Maybe once my kids get off to grade school I'll have time to learn the code and finally get a license. (No-code Tech isn't very interesting to me; I want CW and AM on HF, so I figure I'll go for a General class license if and when I do it.)

Regards,
-Steve

Steve Byan	internet: steve@hi.com
Hitachi Computer Products (America), Inc.	
1601 Trapelo Road	phone: (617) 890-0444
Waltham, MA 02154	FAX: (617) 890-4998

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:52:53 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:52:53 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051546.AA24146@freenet.vcu.edu>
From: nduc@freenet.vcu.edu (Nguyen Duc)

Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

Hi! You have to consider yourself very lucky to own one of those rare "AX" version. Trying to find a good "180A" is not easy. I remember that not long ago somebody was trying to sell an "180A". I don't remember the name. I hope one of the BA's can help you. Good luck ! P.S: Personally, I think Hammarlund made good radios especially the mid and high priced models although some of you might say otherwise.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 21:14:11 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 16:14:11 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950605101508.24997B-100000@thelair.zynet.com>
From: johnb@thelair.zynet.com
Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

On Sun, 4 Jun 1995, Fire Bottle archive handler wrote:

> Stan-
>
> > So... Do you use your BA ? How ?

Apart from mobiling and temporary in_the_process_of_moving operations, I use my BA's for 100% of my hamming. The Kenwood makes a great frequency generator and counter otherwise. Modern rigs are just too boring...
73!/john wb5oau

: -)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:36:07 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:36:07 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051856.NAA26356@zoom.bga.com>
From: Henry van Cleef <vancleef@bga.com>
Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

As Tony Stalls said

>
>
> On Sun, 4 Jun 1995, Steven Wilson wrote: <randyw@crl.com>
>
> > Interesting question, how many of the BA collectors are users of

> > the equipment ?

>

> I don't consider myself a collector, but rather I'm more of an

> "accumulator" as there's no method to what I bring home.

Like Tony, I don't consider myself a "collector" either. I suspect that, compared to some folks, my inventory of "toys" is quite small: three serious receivers, a big old AM/FM/SW/Phono console, some ancient audio stuff (all lo-fi, because my ears are no longer "golden"), and a bunch of test equipment. Since I'm not an amateur, no transmitters. All of this stuff works "like new" or better, and all of it gets to feel the coursing of 110 VAC life blood through its copper veins regularly. Filter caps don't get a chance to go flat around here.

These days, my professional handle is "historian," with a focus on science and technology---though I am one of the few in that field whose primary focus is on socio-economic history with technology fully integrated into the picture, rather than out there as a stand-alone. A lot of my hands-on work with the old iron has been to explore historiographic techniques for inferring who the designers and original users might have been from analyzing the designs. Most of my compatriots in the Society for the History of Technology have pretty good hands-on skills with old technologies, and it is a real joy to spend time with people who know that lasers and atomic energy aren't magic powers that came from a genie, but just plain technologies that can be simply explained to anyone; but who are also just as keenly aware of the themes in US history in de Tocqueville's study of "Democracy in America" that led to the great blossoming of technological innovation after the US Civil War/War Between the States. So a lot of my work with the old iron isn't just a hobby, but is to see what it can contribute to things I'm doing these days.

Of course, it's pure delight to do a little soldering, make a few measurements, and be dosed with the sounds and smells of the electronics of my youth---helps me understand what was so attractive about electronics that I wanted to have a piece of the action when I was a youngster. Back then, a lot of this stuff was high-end and pretty expensive, and people didn't buy them for shelf ornaments. So the stuff I have gets to do its thing---scopes scoping, generators genning, radios playing, bridges balancing, grid dips dipping, and so forth.

--

Hank van Cleef vancleef@bga.com vancleef@tmn.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:37:25 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:37:25 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051659.AA134131545@relay.hp.com>
From: Bill Standerfer <bills@hpslwes.lvld.hp.com>
Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

>So... Do you use your BA ? How ?

Yes occasionally. I've had my HQ-180AC for a couple of years and finally found a B&W 5100 to go with it recently. I've had it on the air a couple of times now, including a nice several hour round table on 75M AM on Memorial Day. When I get a sidetone monitor built, I'll probably try it on CW from time to time, too. The receiver gets used more often for listening to SW broadcast. There's just something about Radio WhereEver reverberating out of that nice Hammarlund speaker. Unfortunately, I missed an HQ-170A-VHF by minutes last Saturday.

>Do you have a BA xmitter go with the receiver ? What kind of transmitter
>goes well with a BA receiver.

I looked at the unreasonable prices people want for Johnson stuff and decided that \$85 for a 5100 was a much better idea. The only thing I miss is 160M. There's nothing to match the resounding Thunk when I throw the toggle switch on the front and all the relays kick in.

"This is KF0DJ signing on for another broadcasting day..."

Bill

Bill Standerfer	*	Hewlett-Packard Company
CFI-A, IA, ME	*	Measurement Systems Division
bills@lvld.hp.com	*	Loveland, CO 80539
Baron N222AB - KF0DJ - Pikes Peak 253	*	970-679-2378

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 01:08:45 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 20:08:45 -0500
Message-Id: <9506060106.AA01804@pig.die.com>
From: "Dave Emery" <die@pig.die.com>
Subject: Re: Do you use your Boatanchor ?

> Dave,

>

> Could you tell me a little about the 851S2? I assume it is a newer version of

> the 851S1. As I recall this was/is part of the Collins HF-80 series of HF
> equipment.

It indeed is a member of the Collins HF-80 series circa about 1977-78.
And it is a very close sibling of the 851S1 (same modules but different
backplanes and options).

It is a fully synthesized (all signals derived from a single
standard or external 5/10 mhz input) HF receiver tunable in 1 hz steps
from 10 khz to 30 mhz. Modes supported in the standard unit are ISB,
USB, LSB, AM, CW/FSK with a synthesized bfo tunable in 10 hz steps +/- 9.99
khz from the center of the passband. There is an optional board
(which I don't have) that supports phaselock exalted carrier (synchro)
AM.

It has Collins (naturally enough) mechanical filters which come
in various optional selectivities - mine was FCC surplus and has
16, 6, 3, 1, .5 , and .2 khz symmetrical filters and 2.7 khz USB and
LSB asymmetric sideband filters.

Tuning is via a large flywheel weighted optical interrupter knob
with electronic sensing of rotation speed so the tuning step gets larger
as you turn the knob faster. There is a coarse tuning in 10 khz steps
(wish it were something smaller) and a fine tuning in 1 hz steps
selectable by a switch. Unlike several of the other comparable but
slightly later government/spook/military HF receivers of the era (RACALs
and Harris HF rigs for example), there is no provision on the 851S2 for
keypad entry of frequency. There is a version of the radio with
digiswitches for setting the frequency, and several versions with
serial port remote control.

Display of frequency and bfo offset is via red/orange 7 segment
LED displays (the later continuous line orange type rather than the
earlier red dot type). Operating mode, selectivity and self test status
are displayed with yellow and red LED's (so that when the unit is remote
controlled its state can be seen), but unlike some gear normal switches
are used to select the various options rather than awkward push buttons.
Signal strength and audio output level is displayed on a pilot bulb
lighted S meter under black smoked plastic (someone stole the original
matching S meter on mine and substituted a KWM-380 S meter calibrated in
S units rather than DB).

The unit is a standard 19 inch rack width by about 10 inches
tall and the front panel is painted black with white lettering. It has
a built in speaker and speaker audio amp with a quite fancy SSB
differential freq band voice detecting squelch circuit that sorta works
(better than ICOM's). In addition it has headphone outputs (and a front
panel jack) and two separate 600 ohm line outputs with separate gain

controls for FSK converters, one for ISB and the other for the other modes.

The synthesizer is a mix and divide design which Collins claimed would tune settle to any frequency in less than 5 ms. It is fast enough and the steps small enough so that turning the tuning knob feels and sounds like analog tuning such as on a R-390A - one does not sense the steps.

Like most receivers of its ilk it upconverts to a mid VHF first IF of 108 mhz with the low side VHF synthesized LO and converts down from there. Collins used a narrow band (20 khz) crystal filter at the first IF to eliminate images and spurs, which is somewhat different than what other people do. Final IF is 450 khz (not 455).

There were two versions of the front end available, one with multiple fractional octave HF bandpass filters spanning 2-30 mhz with PIN switching between them, and the (probably cheaper) version I have with a broadband rf stage before the mixer with only 3 bandpass filters.

I would have to consult the three inch thick manual (Collins kindly sent me a brand new one for free when I sent in the bingo card from the preliminary manual I bought with the unit) about the details of the first mixer and front end circuit. I think it is a FET commutating mixer design, but I frankly forget.

Collins made an external preselector for use in hi RF environments and the radio has (as does the R-1051 family which I also own) provisions for outputting the first few digits of frequency to tune the preselector.

Technology used in the radio is typical of mid 70's analog design with IC op amps, some early rf ICs, MSI CMOS and TTL logic, FETs and PIN diodes (AGC is all PIN diode based). The electronics are on plug in two sided through hole circuit boards interconnected by a backplane and coax cables. Most of the parts are pretty standard stuff - no bizzare LSI or other custom chips are used.

>

> Thanks, > Bill Sievers > KC1HP

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:50:23 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:50:23 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9506050824.A25691-0100000@netcom10>
From: "Hal R. Waite" <halwaite@netcom.com>
Subject: Do you use your boatanchor?

I only collect classes of items that I can actually use: one old car, Leica and other mechanical cameras, automatic pistols, and ham gear.

The tube stations include:

SX-115 and CE 200V (soon to be replaced with the HT-32B).
SR-2000 (an excellent 1kw transceiver by Hallicrafters).
Complete C-line with Sherwood mods and all filters.
SX-101A and Valiant (not used at this time because operation is now only on 20 meters and higher and many AM guys take boring long transmissions).

Receivers for shortwave listening:

SP600.
SX-28 (push-pull audio is a delight).
NC-183D and matching speaker.
This set is very near mint and is available for sale or trade.

Gear used occasionally:

TR4 and TR4C.
HQ-170A.

Gear in need of some repair and alignment:

SW-4A.
Eldico 100F.
HT-37.
HT-32B.

More modern gear which I consider to be among the best:

FT-1.
Hy-Gain 3950.
FT-101ZD.
FT-901DM.
TS-830S (probably the best ssb transcievier ever built, great audio).

The amplifiers used are more modern, being from the 1980's.

Hal K4GFI/7 Las Vegas halwaite@netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 20:58:32 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 15:58:32 -0500
Message-Id: <9506052352.22615.aa@SMROUTER.AAC.COM>
From: Johnson_Dan@AAC.COM
Subject: Do you use your boatanchor?

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

I've enjoyed "visiting" your radio rooms and hesitate to describe KC4EWT's "collection", modest as it is.

In use are HQ-129-X (frequent), DX-60/VF-1 (CW only, sporadic, "trainer rig"), HR-10B (works but for looks only ;-), various vacuumous test equipment (a turn-on), and 15 or so glowing BC/SW RX (self and, fortunately, XYL turn-on). Ricebox technology will continue to be used, of necessity, for portable operations and until the station's time machine is functional.

In progress are ART-13 (pwr supply then PM), BC-348-Q (re-reviving, friends since high school, turned me onto radio), EC-1B + S-38B w/ S-38 parter (bedroom SWlling), ongoing restoration of BC/SW RX (remaining rooms of house), junque boxe appointmentation, and (shhh) several sandy but HB QRP rig.

For the future, an SP-600-JX out there may become the primary station RX, though I've never felt nor heard one. Sometime want aother BC-348, just because. Planned projects include HB QRP 30M TX (6L6 xtal or 20's-style shunt-fed Hartley); an HB regen to go with it; and a self-contained, outboard BFO for a console RX or two.

73 de KC4EWT (Herndon VA)
Johnson_Dan@aac.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 00:30:04 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 19:30:04 -0500
Message-Id: <950605202842_87337241@aol.com>
From: SlotCity@aol.com
Subject: Re: Do you use your boatanchor?

As much as possible. Unfortunately, my on-the-air time has been severely limited for the last couple of years since my business hours conflict with the normal AM operating times. However, I do still spend a fair amount of

time with the BA's, fixing; testing; arranging and cleaning.

The current on-line station, mounted in a home-brew 3 bay rack console, consists of an R390; SP-600; 32V-1; 5pc S-Line for occasional SSB; Audio processing gear and monitor scope. On the side is a Ranger driven Johnson Desk KW and Johnson KW Tuner.

Waiting to rotate in, sell or swap: SP-600; 75A-3; Viking-II w/VFO-122.

Waiting for repair: 75A-1 (will replace the SP-600 on-line, to match the 32V-1); HQ-110; Ranger II, SX-96.

Almost forgot what may be the most important piece. I put an S-38C in the kitchen. My wife has it on, tuned to AM broadcast, constantly when she's in the kitchen and says it sounds much better than the little modern plastic ones, and she likes the glow of the dial lights (who am I to argue with that - bless her).

Bud... KE6DN...

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:35:19 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:35:19 -0500
Message-Id: <n1409748279.65316@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: E. F. Johnson Transceiver Tester?

I have found a neo-BA device, that seems to have been a product of the E. F. Johnson Co. CB division. It is a little black plastic box, slightly larger than an SWR meter, and in fact is one. But also, there are some crystal sockets, and several switches and controls so that you can somehow use this thing as an AM generator, oscillator crystal tester, Audio generator, etc.

I need to find a copy of the manual or will pay costs for someone to copy and mail me one.

It is powered by a 9Volt battery for the generator side, and the meter shows upscale when you twist some of the pots, but when I plugged a crystal in, and selected RF generator position, I did not get anything on the meter. I would have thought this was like the mil type crystal test sets, but maybe not. Can anyone help me, please?

Thanks in advance,
Stuart K5KVH
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 01:02:57 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 20:02:57 -0500
Message-Id: <199506060101.SAA23044@netcom12.netcom.com>
From: rmmiller@netcom.com (Robert M. Miller)
Subject: Re: Error Condition Re:

I am trying to establish a hook into an amateur radio interest group
or service "boatanchors" which according to another amateur radio
operator lives somewhere in the theporch.com? can you help me
Thank you
Bob Miller rmmiller@netcom.com

> >
> We are sorry, but this system sensed the following request which may have been
> inadvertently sent to this list:
>
> SUBSCRIBE BOATANCHORS
>
> If your posting was intentional, please accept our apologies and resend your
> mail message, making sure you do not include anything that may look like a
> request in the first line of the body of the actual message. If this was
> indeed a request please resend it to listproc@theporch.com
> Your entire message
> is copied below.
>
> -----
> Subscribe Boatanchors
>
> Invitation to subscribe given by Paul Thegan
>
> My Call KE6F
> Bob Miller
> 9655 Appalachian Dr.
> Sacramento, CA 95827
> internet rmmiller@netcom.com
>
> Thank you
>
>
>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 11:38:45 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 06:38:45 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051135.AA04616@shore.shore.net>
From: Michael Crestohl <mc@shore.net>
Subject: FOR SALE/SWAP: CLASSIC TCS-12 NAVY RADIO STATION 1.5-12MHz CW/AM

Hello Boatanchor enthusiasts:

Here is a nice military boat anchor that isn't too big or heavy! I posted this to r.r.s this morning:

FOR SALE: U.S. NAVY TCS-12 STATION:

For those of you who may not be familiar with the TCS Radio equipment, these sets were used during WW-II for ship-to-ship communications by the U.S. Navy. They were also produced for the "Lend-Lease" program for Great Britain and other Allied Nations navies. After the sinking of the U.S.S. Indianapolis, the TCS became the standard emergency standby radio station of the U.S. Navy. In the past few years the TCS has become a very popular WW-II military radio because of its relatively small size, conservative design, easily replaced components and tubes, frequency coverage and all-around operating fun. The addition of an outboard DSP audio filter gives the receiver excellent selectivity figures without modifying the circuitry.

The station covers from 1.5 to 12 MHz in 3 bands. Frequency is either crystal control or by variable frequency oscillator. Transmitter power output is 40 Watts on CW and 20 Watts on voice at all frequencies. The TCS uses a standard tube lineup (1625s for the modulator and power output) and is built like the proverbial brick outhouse by COLLINS RADIO COMPANY.

This TCS station consists of:

Receiver, transmitter, AC power supply (rare), power connecting cables (also rare) and the manual. The equipment is original EXCEPT for the modification of a pi-network and SO-239 antenna connector on the output of the transmitter and the addition of a SO-239 on the receiver. The shock mounts on the transmitter and receiver have been removed to save space. It is very clean.

I have seen TCS stations selling for up to \$600.00 complete and in NEW-MINT condition and for around \$350.00 in the same condition and with the same component parts as this one.

I will sell this complete package for \$250.00 and would very much prefer local pickup in the Boston area. I would also be willing to meet the buyer within 100 miles of Boston. I will be attending the Gaithersburg MD Hamfest in September and could deliver the equipment there if necessary. As a final resort I would be willing to arrange to have the station

professionally packed for shipment, but this would be. of course, at the buyers expense. The AC power supply is particularly heavy - about 65 pounds.

If interested please reply by e-mail to mc@shore.net or telephone 617-581-5479.

I am selling this station because I just acquired a mint TCS-12 station with matching serial numbers and I certainly don't need two!

73,

Michael Crestohl KH6KD/W1

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 02:43:26 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 21:43:26 -0500
Message-Id: <115796@w5ddl.aara.org>
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org
Subject: Fowler R-390A Employee

Fowler R-390A Employees

I had a phone discussion with a gent in New York the other day who was one of the last employees at Fowler Industries. They were the company that built some R-390A's for Avondale Shipyards in 1984.

Anyway, he are some of the tidbits that he mentioned.

Fowler was formerly the Clavier Company, and had built 390A's in the sixties. They still had some tools around since they were currently in the business of building glideslope receivers. The also built spare 390A power supplies. He thought that Clavier may have also been Capehart, located on Long Island in previous years, but wasn't sure.

They got the contract from Avondale in 1984, and built two orders worth, about six sets in each order.

They actually cut new metal for all the scratch built parts, and bought components where they could. The line level meters used had an external zero set as an example of an oddity. They got the counters from Veeder-Root. They had trouble getting new mil-spec tubes he said (heck, they should have posted a note here).

He said for two batches of six radios, the material costs came to (are you sitting down?) \$20,000 per radio.

The original owner of the company sold out in 1990, and is now residing in

Israel. He said the new owner has since passed on.

Fowler had about 25 employees at the time, and none were hams save for one guy at the soldering station. They have no drawings or anything left.

I sent the gent some 390A articles hoping to stimulate a little more recollection from him. I'll post anything I find. The info will appear in ER at a later day, compliments of Les Locklear who is compiling the various bits of data from different contributors.

73 de tom n5off

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 14:17:37 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 09:17:37 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051417.AA15518@jsun.agen.okstate.edu>
From: vmike@jsun.agen.okstate.edu (Mike Veldman)
Subject: G.C. fest military collector

I finally found the card from the guy who had the military portables on display at the Green Country Hamfest. The card reads as follows: STARKS ELECTRONICS
*Wholesale Supplier of Surplus
Communications Equipment.
Dennis Starks, Owner

The "Military Radio Collector"
In-house Museum, Public Welcome!

Box 95, Hwy. 65
Cross Timbers, MO 65634 Ph. 417-998-6517

Well, there it is, hope somebody can use it. 73

mike
WD0CTA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:32:03 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:32:03 -0500
Message-Id: <950605192251_71333.144_DHQ86-1@CompuServe.COM>
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>

Subject: Hallicrafters, books FS

For Sale

CONTACT: Don Merz, N3RHT: 47 Hazel Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15228.
412-234-8819 (weekdays, EST or leave a message anytime).
71333.144@compuserve.com

Sams "Post-War Communications Receiver Manual CR-1" covering Collins 75A1, Hallicrafters S-38 through SX-43, National NC-240 through HRO 7, RME 45 and others along with aircraft and marine sets from Gonset, Airadio, Harvey Wells and others. Good condition. Paperback. \$33

Military R-26/ARC-5 "Command Set" receiver covering 3-6mhz. Missing tube cover. Front panel rivets have been drilled out. Black wrinkle. Otherwise in nice shape. No unoriginal holes. Easily restored. \$29

Military BC-453-B "Command Set" receiver covering 190-550khz. All original except solder on rear connector pins. Nice+. \$45

Military BC-454-E "Command Set" receiver covering 3-6mhz, Electrical mods but no unoriginal holes. Rear connector converted to octal. Easily restorable. \$39

Military Aircraft Radio Corporation Glass Vacuum capacitors. 50mmf at 10 RF amperes. These go in the RE-2/ARC-5 and BC-442 antenna relay bases for loading the antenna at VLF frequencies. These appear to be brand new. 6 to sell at \$8 each.

Hallicrafters R-42 speaker. Mate to the SX-42 and others. Big, bass-reflex design. Looks good but case top has 6 or 7 large-ish rough spots where the paint is gone. \$90

Hallicrafters S-19R Sky Buddy. 1938-vintage general coverage receiver with bandspread and BF0. This is the nicest one I've ever seen. Clean dials and good paint including the black-wrinkle-painted chassis! Original Hallicrafters paper tag still on the bottom. Untested. \$129

Hallicrafters SP-44 "Skyrider Panoramic" panadapter. Designed for use with the SX-42 but works on any 455khz IF receiver. 2 deep paint scratches on front panel and unoriginal knobs. But no holes or mods that I see. Missing the green plastic scale that goes in front of the CRT, but this would be simple to make. Paint is decent and silkscreening is good. Untested. \$110

Alfred A. Ghirardi, "Radio and TV Troubleshooting and Repair," 1952, Hardback, excellent: \$22

1931 ARRL Handbook. Good: \$40

1948 ARRL Handbook. Good: \$22

1976 ARRL Handbook. Good: \$15

1978 ARRL Handbook. Good: \$12

Type 955 VHF acorn tubes, New-in-box. 4 to sell: \$6 each

RCA "Triple Pindex" tube base directory covering 475 differnet types. Excellent: \$12

Mallory/Yaxley Radio Service Encyclopedia, 2nd Ed., 1938. Hardback. Very Good: \$24

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 21:50:40 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 16:50:40 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051824.AA19977@sirius.triad.com>
From: bwb%sirius.triad.com%triada.triad.com@triada.triad.com (Bruce Bacon)
Subject: Re: How do we use our BA's?

Greetings back pain sufferers,

Constant mail bombardment required me to subscribe to the daily BA journal and enjoy the lively discussions on a time-delay basis. The aircraft restoration/BA thread has been particularly entertaining and informative.

After my daughter left for college last year, her bedroom became the radio shack. Jeez, she was right, her bedroom **is** small! The following rx'es live their claustrophobic lives attached to a six position rotary coaxial switch:

Hallicrafters SX28 (almost finished with the restoration)
R390A (a mongrel, but it works great, especially with the KD0HG audio module - fantastic audio)
Hammarlund HQ180 (KRS digital display)
Hammarlund SP200 & P/S (had it's first tube failure in almost 2 decades, this year)
(Don your silicon protection shields now!)
Yaesu FRG-7 (heavily modified)
Kenwood R2000 (bone stock)

Another coaxial switch (3 position) inputs one of the following three SWL/MWDX antennas to a tuner/preselector attached to the 6 position rx switch:

50' attic LW
250' "roof loop", a continuous wire loop wrapped around the perimeter of the roof
4' MW air frame box loop

I rotate a stereo speaker (10" woofer) between the headphone jacks of the SP200, SX28 and R390A for that wonderful AM audio these three receivers produce. The west coast AMI group never sounded better!

One of these days, I'll get around to finding a BA tx. Being a tech+ has it's advantages, in our antenna-retentive neighborhood. A simple dipole on the roof allows me to get on the air with a silicon 10

meter-only transceiver. Poor propagation conditions have severely limited QSO's this year, tho. Upgrade? When would I find the time to play with the BA's ;-)?

73,

-Bruce Bacon KE6GLS (replies to - bwb@triad.com) Livermore, CA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:51:11 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:51:11 -0500
Message-Id: <199506052319.AA01944@ns-1.csn.net>
From: wkleros@csn.net (Bill Kleronomos)
Subject: Infamous Black Caps

Steve @hi.com asks if the notorious black caps in the SP-600 should all arbitrarily replaced. I have heard the common failure mode of those guys is that their plastic shell is just as effective as keeping moisture in the cap (once it migrates in) as it might be keeping it out. I own a mid-50s SP600JX-17 that spent its entire working career at a government research facility in New Mexico (read: dry climate). Upon checking, I noted none of the notorious caps appeared to have been ever replaced and I found none with excessive leakage warranting replacement. So, I suppose it might depend how/where the radio was used. If one or more are found bad, it might be worthwhile going through the trouble. If none have yet failed, then the entire lot might be assumed to be in decent shape and some spot checking could verify this. 73, Bill

"Peak the grid, dip the plate, dive right in- don't hesitate!"
- de KD0HG

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 03:49:35 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 22:49:35 -0500
Message-Id: <199506060347.UAA09961@netcom19.netcom.com>
From: rmccarty@netcom.com (roger mccarty)
Subject: Johnson Silkscreening Available

Recently became aware of an individual doing silkscreening on the Johnson Transmitters.;

Ron Eisenbrey AB5WG

115 First St
Sugar Land, Tx 77478
(713) 491-7823 After 6 PM CST.

SASE fopr details or call him direct.

He has a set schedule for specific models so contact him for dates if you are interested.

Roger KD6CC

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 14:45:44 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 09:45:44 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051443.AA15661@jsun.agen.okstate.edu>
From: vmike@jsun.agen.okstate.edu (Mike Veldman)
Subject: Looking for stuff

I'm looking for some ba related stuff to complete an old project and start a new one. First I'd like to obtain a couple of B&W 350-2Q4 or equiv. phase shift modules to finish up a six meter sideband rig that I started building out of old motorola commercial strips.

Second I'd like to track down one of the 32 volt dynamotor supplies for my TCS station. I want to build up a display mating two of my hobbies together. One of my other hobbies is collecting and restoring old light plants, 32 and 110 volt dc engine driven generators. I think the TCS station powered by an old delcolight 32 volt plant (probably a 1932 design since they were used during WW2 by the military) would make a neat if not novel display at an engine show.

Anyway, if anyone can send me a lead or a source, thanls! 73

mike
WD0CTA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:05:38 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:05:38 -0500
Message-Id: <n1409786419.73503@cpqm.saic.com>
From: "Bob Scott" <Bob_Scott@cpqm.saic.com>
Subject: Manassas, VA Hamfest

Not much to add to the other observations except I saw a Johnson Pacemaker that I was sorely tempted to take home with me. The guy was only asking \$150 for it and it looked nice. I just could not bring myself to get yet another rig, but I think I messed up letting this one get away. I did pick up a very nice looking Star Roamer for \$5.00 It seems to have audio problems, but mechanically, it looks very good. I saw the Heath HR-20, HX-20, MT-1 setup and it looked almost new. Not much Drake stuff, especially the MN-2000 that I was looking for but never found. I wonder if we are going into some kind of famine or something. Did not see many people that I knew, but I am usually not looking up. Was a pretty day and enjoyed the time with my two grown/almost grown sons. I keep them around to carry the heavy stuff. Strangest thing I saw was a big magnet that was asking \$100. Do not know what one would do with it.

73, Bob AC4QO Bob_Scott@cpqm.saic.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 10:33:42 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 05:33:42 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9506051226.A12192-0100000@inet.uni-c.dk>
From: MEC <danmec@inet.uni-c.dk>
Subject: Re: Manassas, VA hamfest, 6-4-95, ahhh...

I wonder if anyone picked up any 811A's surplus to requirements ?
I came back from Dayton with a 30L1 with only one good tube !

Anyone out there with 811A's to spare ?

73 Rag OZ8RO

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 00:43:08 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 19:43:08 -0500
Message-Id: <9506060041.AA00396@kali>
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: Mil WW2 Navy remote forsale

The remote control mentioned in my Contoocook NH report previously is model CFL-23285, for type MN radio equipment. If anyone has an MN, and can use this, email me.

--Andy
wallace@mc.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:05:00 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:05:00 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051625.JAA22406@ix2.ix.netcom.com>
From: w0ogh@ix.netcom.com (Larry Godek)
Subject: Museums

If I may slip this in here. Just a quick word here jack. If anyone wants to see how the old time telephone offices worked, Some of the Telephone Pioneer organizations have in their museums, installed enough equipment to demonstrate the calling sequences in the old step by step offices. Real neat working examples. You can even place a call to an adjacent phone and in the meantime listen and see the switches operate. You will get a small, quick demo on how noisy it could be in those offices when you had hundreds of them running up and down, dropping off of picking up the lines as people went off hook. Fun but a dieing breed of people from the past. If you are ever in Phoenix, at 20 E. Thomas we have such a museum and it is open to the public. A note to me will get you a personal tour or directions as you request.

Larry W00GH

ps: Honest Jack, its close to boatanchors.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 21:29:06 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 16:29:06 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.3.07.9506051451.D10090-91000000@cap1.capaccess.org>
From: Mike Cizek <mcizek@CapAccess.org>
Subject: Need info on Johnson #250-39 TR Switch

I just picked up an EF Johnson #250-39 TR switch that I'm told can be used to provide QSK operation with seperate transmitter/receiver setups. I'd really like to find a manual for this and would like any info anyone can provide me. Thanks. 73,

Mike Cizek K07V

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 01:58:36 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 20:58:36 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9506052034.A24467-01000000@ozarks>

From: "C. Frank Gilmore" <fgilmore@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us>
Subject: Re: Need info on Johnson #250-39 TR Switch

On Mon, 5 Jun 1995, Mike Cizek wrote:

> I just picked up an EF Johnson #250-39 TR switch that I'm told can be used
> to provide QSK operation with seperate transmitter/receiver setups. I'd
> really like to find a manual for this and would like any info anyone can
> provide me. Thanks. 73,
>
> Mike Cizek K07V
>

Indeed it can Mike. I used one for years. The early models were rated at 150 watts and the later ones at 300 watts to accomodate the Valients. I can't remember what the serial number crossovers were. I don't recall the model numbers changing.

The only problem with them and similiar TR switches is a phenomena called "suck out" for want of a better name....I didn't coin it...it was in use in the grand year of 1959 when I bought my first one.

It means simply that the pi-net in the transmitter has a pronounced effect on the receiver.....to wit: you will find if you have the transmitter tuned to 40 and try to look for signals on 20 or whatever you may find the band sounds dead or signals very weak. This was a nuisance. The cure was the famous B & W bypass coax switch designed for use in bypassing the input of a amp direct to the antenna to cut the amp out of the chain. Worked fine for cutting out the TR switch if you wanted to spot check a band without going to the trouble of tuning up the rig on it.

You may notice the unit running pretty hot...this was normal. Especially on the earlier models. That might be one way to judge it's place in production. The power transformer was a bit too small in those first ones and it got very hot. They changed it some in the later ones.

I operated QSK for years with one. Also B & W's version and still have a very rare unit built for use with the RCA AR-88 and an unknown transmitter by the British. It draws power by pulling out the audio tube and sticking in the units adaptor and putting the tube back on top of it. It was for shipboard use. Bought the only one I ever saw at a Mass. ham fest in '62 when I was up there as an ARRL employee. Guys back at HQ kidded me about it....what on earth was I going to use it for? For my RCA AR-88 of course....turned out I was the only person on staff that had one!

Course I was very eclectic even then. Anything the league was throwing out I grabbed up. When I moved back to Missouri it was like the Beverly Hillbillies going home only mine was piled in a 1960 Chev. convertible rather than on an old truck. (Same Chev. convertible the blasted G-76 caught fire.)

73, de Frank
de K0JPJ ex-W5PVX ...-.-

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 21:45:01 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 16:45:01 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051752.AA01588@mailstorm.dot.gov>
From: Thomas Bryan <tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov>
Subject: Need PRC-68A and PRC-126/128 parts

Hello All,

Sorry for the BW on a not quite BA topic but I am looking everywhere.

I need parts for the PRC-68A and PRC-126 radios sets. I especially need the housing for the radio. A dead radio would be just what I need.

Tom Bryan
tbryan@mailstorm.dot.gov

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 11:42:45 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 06:42:45 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051139.AA04710@shore.shore.net>
From: Michael Crestohl <mc@shore.net>
Subject: NEW ENGLAND ham radio & electronic flea market list - May 31st 1995

Hello again:

Here is the comprehensive list maintained by Steve W1GSL (of the MIT Flea Market) of the New England area radio/electronic flea markets coming up.

New England Area Ham - Electronic Flea Market *** DATES *** 1995 P 1 of 2
All events are Ham Radio/ Electronic related except ~____~

1995 Contact Source

~~~~~  
10 June Goshen CT SoBARC @FG rt63nr4 \$5@9 \$15/T Sid K1SS 203 364 0480 F



11 June Queens NY @HallofScience 47-01 111st \$5@9 Arnie WB2YXB 718 343 0172  
 17 June Hermon ME Pine St ARC @elSchool \$3@8 Roger KA1TKS 207 848 3846 F  
 17 June Rutland VT VT St Conv. Justin WA1ITZ 802 728 4034 A  
 18 June Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F  
 buy \$2@9A sellers \$10/sp@7A \$8in adv  
 3rd Sunday Each Month April thru October  
 21-23 June Boston MA ELECTRO @ Hynes ~Electronics trade show~ 800 223 7126 F  
 15 July Clinton ME MCARC \$3 + \$5 camping Robin N1NFK 207 442 9405 F  
 15 July Newport NH SugarRiverARF on common Bob N1CIR 603 863 5383 F+  
 16 July Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F  
 22 July Nashua NH NE Antique RC \$5@8 \$1@9 @ Res Ctr Church 617 923 2665  
 28-30 July Manchester NH ARRL NE Div Conv B\$8 Al N1FIK 603 487 3333 F  
 4-6 Aug Fredrickton NB FARC Gary VE9AI@VE9VT V  
 6 Aug Wellesley MA WARS @Babson Pepsi Pav. \$2@9 Barbara N1ICQ 617 329 2628  
 11,12 Aug Charlotte VT BARC 3PM Fri -> \$5 + camping John N1LXI 802 658 0690 F  
 12 Aug St Albans ME @ Snow Mobile Club Skeet KA1LPW 207 622 2915  
 20 Aug Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F  
 26 Aug Gardner MA MARC @Drive-in S\$5@6 B\$2@8 Paul N1IPG 508 632 9432 F  
 27 Aug Yonkers NY YARC John WB2AUL 914 963 1021 A  
 27 Aug Vernon CT East V-UHF Conf FLEA \$5@8 @QualInn Mark N1LZC 413 566 2445 F+  
 6-9 Sept Rochester NY Antique WA Conf @Thwy Marriott Joyce 607 739 5443 F  
 9 Sept Windsor ME AARA @Fairground Rod KA1RFD 207 582 6125  
 9 Sept Ballston Spa NY SCRACES 7A \$4-5 Ti147.84/.24 Dave N2FEP 518 882 6196  
 9 Sept Queens NY @HallofScience 47-01 111st \$5@9 Arnie WB2YXB 718 343 0172  
 10 Sept Brewster NY Pearlfest @JFKes \$12/T@7 \$5@9 Shirley N2SKP 914 736 3558 F

10 Sept S Dartmouth MA SE Mass ARA Bob Pecken KA1YDG 508 995 9137 T

16 Sept Forestdale RI RIFMRS @VFW rt146 8A flea+auct Rick K1KYI 401 725 7595

16 Sept Randolph VT CVARC Robert WB1AJG 802 433 6172 A

17 Sept Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F  
3rd Sunday Each Month April thru October

17 Sept Pittsfield MA NoBARC @Taconic HS s@7 b@8 Chuck NZ1Z 413 447 8377

17 Sept Newtown CT CARA @Town Hall rt6 \$4@9 \$10/T@7 Ken KD1DD 203 743 9181 F

17 Sept Old Westbury NY LIMARC Neil WE2V 516 462 2446 A

23 Sept Lincoln ME Bagley ARC @Burr Sc 1miN on Rt2 Ed WA1JGO 207 732 5185

24 Sept Framingham MA @ HS \$14@8 \$10tg \$5@9 \$2@10 Lew K1AZE 508 879 7456 F

24 Sept Yonkers NY Metro70 @Lincoln HS \$19/T@7 \$5@9 Otto WB2SLQ 914 969 1053 F

6,7 Oct Rochester NH Hoss Traders @FG x13 rt16 \$20@9A \$5@3PM fri Joe K1RQG T

8 Oct Durham CT Nutmeg @FG Jim N1IZF 203 349 3353

15 Oct Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F

21 Oct Greenwood NS GARC @Community Ctr Derek VE1FLY 902 765 4660 V

28 Oct Nashua NH NE Antique RC \$5@8 \$1@9 @ Res Ctr Church 617 923 2665

28 Oct Waterford CT Tri-City ARC Auct @SRctr RT85 @10 noTG Bob 203 739 8016

28 Oct Plymouth MA Mayflower RC @Mem Hall 9-3 sell@8 Jon WS1K 508 746-0162

28,29 Oct Waltham MA Photographica 10-5 \$5 ~photo~ (bef 9PM) Ed 617 965 0807

29 Oct Southwick MA HCRA @Rec Cntr \$3@9 \$15/T Barry N1IJK 413 747 7010 +

12 Nov Branford CT SCARA Brad WA1TAS 203 265 9983 T

~~~~~

1996	Contact	Source
21 Jan Yonkers NY Metro70 @Lincoln HS	Otto WB2SLQ 914 969 1053 F	
24 Feb Milton VT NVT Winter Hamfest @HS 8A	Mitch WB2JSJ 802 879 6589	

~~~~~

25 Feb Westford MA Radio XXVII @Regency Antique \$4@8 A.R.C 508 371 0512

2 March Twin Mt NH LARK+NCARC @TownHall s\$4@8A b\$2@9 Gil WB1DVD 603 444 2290

3 March Braintree MA SSARA @ DAV \$15/T \$2@9:30 Bill WA1GHL 617 288 6906 T

21 April Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F  
3rd Sunday Each Month April thru October

5 May Yonkers NY Metro70 @Lincoln HS Otto WB2SLQ 914 969 1053 A

19 May Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F

31 May - 2 June Rochester NY ARRL Atlantic Conv Harold K2HC 716 424 7184 A

16 June Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F

21 July Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F

18 Aug. Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F

8 Sept Brewster NY Pearlifest Shirley N2SKP 914 736 3558 +

15 Sept. Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F

29 Sept Yonkers NY Metro70 @Lincoln HS Otto WB2SLQ 914 969 1053 A

20 Oct. Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT Nick 617 253 3776 F

~~~~~

LAST UPDATE 5-31-95 de W1GSL P 2 of 2

Source F= Flyer T= tentative early info + = new info this month
A= ARRL V= VE list D= W1DL WR NV 73 CQ QST = Mags

This list has been compiled from many sources. While we believe the info to be accurate the author can not be responsible for changes or errors. Check with the sponsoring organizations for more details. This list will be posted monthly to USENET. Mailed copies are sent when additions are made.

Additions/ Corrections via Internet w1gsl@mit.edu

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SASE for updated copy as issued.

ENJOY!!!!

Cordially,

Michael Crestohl KH6KD/W1

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 14:19:52 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 09:19:52 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051414.HAA03976@ix3.ix.netcom.com>
From: w0ogh@ix.netcom.com (Larry Godek)
Subject: NTIS

Several months ago when the info about NTIS having R-390 manuals, I call them to place an order. To date I have only received 1 manual. They said I would get them when they were available. God only knows apparently when the Gov't will ever get around to printing another batch. They have a CD for those of you who want to know what all is available. I think they want \$260 for it. Other than that she could not tell me what was available and what was not. Good luck.

Larry W00GH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 14:52:15 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 09:52:15 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051448.KAA10570@cc01du.unity.ncsu.edu>
From: rdkeys@unity.ncsu.edu
Subject: Re: On-line manuals

>
> Picked up Bob/NA4G's manual from cropsci via ftp, so I could get the
> binary .zip file. That's an impressive piece of work. Bob, did you
> really type it in (resisting the temptation to improve the style), or
> did you scan it, ocr it, and fix it? Did not try MYROFF, but understand
> how it works, and how it probably saves space in transmission. Actually,
> Microsoft Word docs compress to about 20% of their excessive size using
> Pkzip. Was tempted to translate to Word 6 to see what it looked like
> for size, but time ran out.

I typed it all in by hand and tried to keep it as close to original as possible, aside from some notes. OCR might work, but it has never worked well for me. BA manuals just don't seem to obey OCR rules.

> The problem here is the mixture of technology, and determining the
> lowest common denominator. Bob's MYROFF is orders of magnitude more
> simple than printing a .gif image. But when I read a manual, the

> schematic is necessary to understand the words. This implies that
> the ability to print a graphic is required to have a useful manual.
> And that says that we could take a step up from stuff that would run
> on a PDP-11, like variations of roff. But maybe not to Word, and all
> of its dialects.

I have serious problems with high-tech solutions to ancient problems. I will try to explain why, based upon my experiences. Back when I started playing in computers, about 1975 or so, ascii was the default. When CP/M came aboard a year or so later, ascii was the default, but we had some creeping featuritis with WordStar. Every secretary had it dictated to them that WordStar was the cat's meow. The problem turned out to be that it became bloody hell to get anything into or out of WordStar without retyping the bloody thing back in. We even wrote a ton of filters to strip/rehack things from/to that ``high-tech'' solution. Along came IBMPC and WordPerfect became the norm, with some Word folks running amok in the works. Now it is still hell to get anything into or out of the secretaries unless written in there particular CURRENT version of the bloody word processor. Invariably something groks when subtleties like travelling margins or emboldening of text is done. I hear nothing but complaints from secretaries about not even being able to get last years document to work correctly with this years version of the bloody wordprocessor. Shit! I won't tolerate that kind of thing. If I go to the trouble to preserve a document (especially something like a BA manual) and I don't want to rekey it every change of wordprocessor, I stick with genuine boatanchor PDP-11 technology like either Roff and its incantations or TeX/LaTeX. There is nothing else that is sufficiently stable in the long-term document environment to warrant playing with, in my experiences. I would prefer the BA archives be in TeX/LaTeX, because that is available at every major institution of higher learning around the world, and it has no equals in the typesetting environment, that the average joe could get his hands on. Don't even tell me that Pagemaker or such can even begin to compare, because they also are stuck in the wordprocessor ``i am god and everything will be done my way and my way only'' mode. The problem with Tex/LaTeX is that you have to become at least somewhat proficient in it before you can get much out of it, and that takes about a year of playing with it. That is probably more than can be asked of the average Boatanchorite, but would be a class act if it could be done.

As for images, gif is probably not the best answer. It is workable, but difficult to convert to a good high-resolution output plate. For generic use to make good manuals or printouts, my experiences have been that you can't even begin to make a readable image unless it is a standard 300dpi resolution. For a full page schematic, that is about 500k per page, in two colors, black and white. It can grow up to about 1.4 megs per page if halftone is required. That is a real problem for boatanchorites. Sometimes, with image compression they can be scaled down to maybe 250K.

In my experiences, all that is usually required is a good clean schematic and once in a while practical wiring diagram. Pictures are not usually necessary because many things are marked already on chassis, etc., except for general commercial things. In that case, a picture showing the inductor/capacitor trimmer locations is usually required. Hence, for the average manual maybe three or four images are required. In the case of the LM manual, I will include the schematics for the meter unit and the power supply unit. They may be up later this afternoon if I can get some time on the scanner. As to printing out the images, there are only about two or three options. Either 1) you have to provide the image handling software based upon using a standard image input such as gif or tiff, or 2) you have to provide a standard printer output file for a single page print of the image, and that locks you into laserjet output on HPlaser or Postscript. The easiest to work with is just a printer output file that you merely print and use. Providing good image conversion software is a problem, unless we expect all boatanchorites to be using workstations running X11 or windoz. That also is probably expecting a bit much. I think it is a fair assumption that most of us could find someone with a laserjet printer somewhere to print out image plates for us. In that case, having the final printer output files is probably the best mode.

I would guess that in my hands, I prefer keeping the simplest text handling mode possible (the lowest common denominator) and trying to use a finished printer file for images. For the stuff I have written (only 2 books and maybe 50 articles for the ivory tower and the local radio crowd) my best experiences have been with a simple markup language text system and premade full plate image page prints. For the longer book (250 pages with maybe 50 illustrations) I chose TeX/LaTeX and for the shorter one I chose Troff (back before I learned the TeX/LaTeX system). In the first book I did the images as individual pasteups, and scanned them in to print. For the second one, I put it all into one work. The size of the first book was about 250K for the text and about 3 megs for the images. The second one was 7 megs all rolled into one. Using WordPerfect or Word, the secretaries around here consistently stumble with things longer than about 100 pages. I finally gave up on their stumblings, and chose to run dinosaurs that worked. Yet, the dinosaurian low-endian PDP-11'ish style things chomp away with impunity regardless of how long the thing is. That tells me a few things about wordprocessors.

Hence, me best 'o me thoughts an' me achin' in me knees tells me to stick with the PDP-11 style mode and separate printer output plates for the schematics, etc.

>
> Wha'd'ya think?
>

> Bill Hawkins bill@bvc.frco.com
>

Well, I dumped all over meself this fine monday morn, so I hope my thoughts are at least readable and comprehensible. My gut impression and the one I have trusted for a long time still says keep the KISS approach rather than the creeping featuritis approach, for BA manuals.

Remember, we don't need to rekey these things in every few years, to accommodate our latest creeping featuritis, right?

But, we need to iron out such subtleties before going too far afield.

All comments appreciated.

73/Bob/NA4G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:47:45 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:47:45 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051543.AA24913@interlock.wdni.com>
From: "Turini, Bill" <turinib@wdni.com>
Subject: RE: On-line manuals

Bill Hawkins bill@bvc.frco.com wrote:

> The problem here is the mixture of technology, and determining the
> lowest common denominator. Bob's MYROFF is orders of magnitude more
> simple than printing a .gif image. But when I read a manual, the
> schematic is necessary to understand the words. This implies that
> the ability to print a graphic is required to have a useful manual.
> And that says that we could take a step up from stuff that would run
> on a PDP-11, like variations of roff. But maybe not to Word, and all
> of its dialects.

> Wha'd'ya think?

I would suggest that we try to use a technology that is a little more current than t/n/my roff. These are relics of an older age of technology when the output medium was the printed page. Current and future technology is the visual display. I would suggest that we plan on recording these documents for the future BAers of the 21st Century.

Perhaps something like Microsoft's Viewer. It's free and will allow anyone

to read and print a Microsoft Word document. One can import graphics into Word documents.

Or keep it in HTML, which will allow importation into a web server. HTML Viewers are free (I even have one for my HP 200LX Palmtop!).

Adobe Acrobat is another device independent technology, although I haven't investigated it.

Bill KA4GAV/7 turinib@wdni.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 16:00:40 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 11:00:40 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051554.AA20992@texan.frco.com>
From: bill@texan.frco.com (William Hawkins)
Subject: Re: On-line manuals

Bob, you certainly do have a point about wordprocessors. They've gotten somewhat better about import and export, but you can't move a Word doc between a Mac and a PC without losing something. So, I agree on using a (the) KISS word processor - roff.

On the images, maybe the best solution (today) is the copier machine and the US mail. You can't match the copier's resolution over a wire, and you could probably get four images into the basic one ounce postal rate. You'd need regional distribution points to handle the volume.

Bill Hawkins bill@bvc.frco.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 21:49:08 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 16:49:08 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051640.MAA16859@ccc01du.unity.ncsu.edu>
From: rdkeys@unity.ncsu.edu
Subject: Re: On-line manuals

>
> Bill Hawkins bill@bvc.frco.com wrote:
>
> > The problem here is the mixture of technology, and determining the
> > lowest common denominator. Bob's MYROFF is orders of magnitude more
> > simple than printing a .gif image. But when I read a manual, the
> > schematic is necessary to understand the words. This implies that

> > the ability to print a graphic is required to have a useful manual.
> > And that says that we could take a step up from stuff that would run
> > on a PDP-11, like variations of roff. But maybe not to Word, and all
> > of its dialects.
>
> > Wha'd'ya think?
>
> I would suggest that we try to use a technology that is a little more
> current than t/n/my roff. These are relics of an older age of technology
> when the output medium was the printed page. Current and future technology
> is the visual display. I would suggest that we plan on recording these
> documents for the future BAers of the 21st Century.

I love the 21st century aspect! But, there are no standards in place for anything like the beginning of the 21st century yet, although those folks that sell software would like to sell one a bridge up brooklyn way.

I know they are relics from the past, but that is their beauty. They are cast in stone, and will work 15-30 years down the road just as well as now. Just because they are cast in stone does not mean they are obsolete. Their simplicity is ``a virtue''. Their un-changing nature guarantees that they will be workable down the road. Source code is provided.

They will also run on any machine from CP/M boxes (yes there are a few selected Boatanchorites still using such machines, me included, even though I have dos/unix boxes around) to dos machines to unix boxes, and almost every unix box has at least the Nroff formatter about. It is standard and cast in stone, and again, that is its beauty.

Current and future technology may be the visual display, but it will be many years after I am on the final watch, boatanchor key in hand, plying the waters of etherdom, before the resolution is sufficient to replace the simple hard copy for the average user. Until a good system of rendering LARGE BA schematics into electronic format that does not require an upscale dedicated workstation is commonplace, then I have to take a luddite Boatanchor point of view on this one. Few of us have such workstations at home.

> Perhaps something like Microsoft's Viewer. It's free and will allow anyone
> to read and print a Microsoft Word document. One can import graphics into
> Word documents.

OK, you run the test case using the LM manual and I will provide you with the scanned in images to include. The LM images represent the least scale size images of any practical use. Then, make it available so that it can be printed on my laserjet, my postscript printer, and my plain ascii decwriter. If it will print satisfactorily on all three modes (the

decwriter less images, of course), AND it is not locked up into any non-transportable internal wordprocessor binary junk, then the goals have been met. Have you noticed how lousy the resolution is on electronic encyclopaedias, these days..... They are screen oriented and very poor in resolution.

> Or keep it in HTML, which will allow importation into a web server. HTML
> Viewers are free (I even have one for my HP 200LX Palmtop!).

HTML would be nice, but it is too much in flux right now, and is not stable. Also the transit time of large images is absolutely abysmal around this end of the world. The system is getting overloaded, it seems. HTML is not a sufficiently good markup language to render documents in high quality --- it was never designed for that and has a hard time growing into that. The WWW is overloading itself, at present, when it comes to biggies and simple luddite ftp is much superior.

> Adobe Acrobat is another device independent technology, although I haven't
> investigated it.

>

> Bill KA4GAV/7 turinib@wdni.com

OK, would someone do that and report back to the list?

Adobe has hooks into Postscript, right, so that would probably be good in the long term.

The real test case for all of this would be an on-line R-390 manual. I doubt that anything other than Tex/LaTeX could handle it, although perhaps real Troff could. I have serious doubts about things like Word and WordPerfect. They would stumble, methinks. Prove me wrong! I would love to see these things handle a good 1000 page boatanchor manual with illustrations, throughout..... (:+{}.....

So far, I still have to favor the KISS approach. But, prove me wrong! Maybe we will get some good out of all this rumbling, and get some good on-line manuals, to boot!

73/Bob/NA4G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 04:00:14 1995

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 23:00:14 -0500

Message-Id: <Pine.NXT.3.91.950605204603.3796E-100000@nexttues.reed.edu>

From: "Aaron J. Grier" <agrier@reed.edu>

Subject: RE: On-line manuals

On Mon, 5 Jun 1995, Turini, Bill wrote:

> I would suggest that we try to use a technology that is a little more
> current than troff. These are relics of an older age of technology
> when the output medium was the printed page. Current and future technology
> is the visual display. I would suggest that we plan on recording these
> documents for the future BAers of the 21st Century.

Ahh... but if something real simple is used, this is guaranteed. Troff
and its derivatives have been around for years. The format itself is
public-domain and stable. Source code is available.

> Perhaps something like Microsoft's Viewer. It's free and will allow anyone
> to read and print a Microsoft Word document. One can import graphics into
> Word documents.

Ah, but is this available for the numerous platforms that troff is?
Microsoft isn't friendly when it comes to releasing source code. You
either play by their games or you don't play at all. Again, it's not
been proven that Microsoft's format is time-safe. Mightier companies
have fallen.

> Or keep it in HTML, which will allow importation into a web server. HTML
> Viewers are free (I even have one for my HP 200LX Palmtop!).

HTML isn't time proven like troff is. It's still an infant format, and
with Netscape adding all their little goodies, who knows what it will
turn into? It's not designed for typesetting either. Remember that what
we are trying to do is preserve documents which were originally typeset on
paper. It's one thing when the original document only exists in a
digital world, but this is not the case.

> Adobe Acrobat is another device independent technology, although I haven't
> investigated it.

If Acrobat takes the same road that Postscript has, then it would be a
safe road. However, this cuts out a lot of machines for which Adobe
hasn't released their PDF viewer for. Time will tell.

It's also important to remember that we can always upgrade if need-be.
Nothing needs to be set in stone. So long as the original paper
documents are stored with care, if things get totally screwed up, these
can be referred to. :)

The Finn / VLA | "Feel the love: have a carrot!" -- Groovy Dave
Aaron J. Grier | DE CB EE 65 0D EE 3A 0C 1E D7 F5 4D 9E 02 3C C4
agrier@reed.edu | The above line contains a bunch of letters & numbers.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 01:14:40 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 20:14:40 -0500
Message-Id: <199506060110.AA214321001@zarco.sr.hp.com>
From: Steve Pazar <pazar@sr.hp.com>
Subject: pre-boatanchors:xtal sets!!!

Ladies and Gents,
Well, life is playing yet another cruel trick on me
(hobby wise). I have lately developed an interest in
old (pre-1920's) sets. You know, the ones with
'cat whisker' detectors. These beasties seem to be rare.
They sure are expensive, so I am trying to reproduce
examples (for my collection) of these wonderful old sets
using period components wherever possible, from pictures
in old books. If any of you folks that like 'modern'
glow-in-the-dark boatanchors happen to have any old
components in your junk box (especially the cat whisker
detectors), I'd like to hear from you.

The front page from the latest ARC really added fuel to the
fire, and I have already collected many of the raw materials
to build a reproduction of the 'vertical vario-coupler', but as
a crystal set instead of the Liberty tube (which is REALLY cool,
but I don't have one). Besides this, I am collecting parts to
build a 'poor mans' arc transmitter using an old Ford spark box.
Listen for me on 80 meters (and 40, 20, 10...). ;-)

* STEVE PAZAR DoD #702 Kawasaki KZ440A
* E-mail: pazar@sr.hp.com
* Ether: WA4DUT/6
* Stupid is forever, ignorance can be fixed...

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 12:12:08 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 07:12:08 -0500

Message-Id: <199506051210.IAA26024@service1.uky.edu>
From: wlfuqu00@service1.uky.edu (Bill Fuqua)
Subject: Re: Q: FW rect + 8300 uF/amps = 1V ripple?

>An acquaintance made a claim that I'd appreciate hearing confirmed or
>refuted. He said that modern capacitors have such high capacity that
>chokes are no longer required in power supplies. In particular, with
>full-wave rectification, he claimed that one need use only 8300 uF per amp
>to get 1V of ripple.
>
>This probably doesn't apply to HV supplies, but for powering 24V-28V gear,
>does it ring true? Can I get a 24V, "adequately" filtered DC supply with a
>transformer, rectifier, and a computer-grade (30 or 50V nominal) 83,000 mF
>tin can?
>
>Am I paying too much attention, authenticity aside, to 50-year-old
>literature?
>
>TIA de KC4EWT
>Johnson_Dan@aac.com
>
>

For an simple one capacitor filter this is a correct figure. A capacitor
stores charge and when the charge interval is 1/120 seconds and it is being
removed at the rate of 1 amp., a 8,300uF capacitor will discharge 1Volt
between pulses of charging current. The DC value of voltage does not matter.

73

Bill ko4ww

William L. Fuqua III P.E.
Department of Physics and Astronomy
CP-177 Chem. Phys. Bldg.
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Ky 40506-0055
E-mail WLFUQU00@POP.UKY.EDU
Phone (606) 257-4155

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 00:45:27 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 19:45:27 -0500
Message-Id: <9506060043.AA00400@kali>
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: R-388 drum dial forsale (free?)

I have a yellowed drum dial (MHz) from my R-388 if anyone has a 388 in so pitiful shape that it's missing the dial. This one is yellowed but readable with a few small nicks. Includes the spring and pulley, of course.

You pay shipping, and prove you really want it! <grin>

--Andy

wallace@mc.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:24:58 1995

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:24:58 -0500

Message-Id: <9506051823.AA18850@ihurry.ih.att.com>

From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com

Subject: Re: R-390 Factory Miswired?

Yes, according to my schematic, you can simply swap the wires on the center taps of the Line and Local audio pots.

Sounds like it would be more correct to swap them at the plug connector than at the

pots, especially since the pots are pretty far apart on the panel.

BTW, Collins/whoever did a no-no in the design of these pots.

There is DC flowing thru them! Not because they're in the detector diode load circuit (like in a cheap home radio), but they are part of the cathode-follower load resistance.

No idea why your line-out meter isn't reading. Probably the least important feature on an R390A, except to impress visitors to the shack with it pumping away on the audio peaks. Unless you're feeding a RTTY TU, of course :-)

--mike k w9nrd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 14:40:15 1995

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 09:40:15 -0500

Message-Id: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950605102742.1848B-100000@laurel.us.net>

From: Tony Stalls <ras@us.net>

Subject: Re: R-390A audio

On Sun, 4 Jun 1995 "Stanley L Flegler" wrote:

> I bought an LS-166 speaker from Fair Radio and hooked it up to the
> line audio terminals on the back of my R-390A. It works very well.

I did the same thing with the same results. The one I got was in rough shape, so I stripped and repainted it. I also removed the long mounting screw and installed a toggle switch to switch between 8 and 600 ohms. It also does OK with my GRC-9's 400 ohm match. (If you think 600:8 ohms is hard to find, try finding a 400:8 one!) I also tried it with my 2 meter CB rig, switched to bypass the transformer of course, and it sounded fine with that too.

> The unit has a 600 to 8 ohm transformer to match the speaker to the
> 600 ohm line on the R-390A. On my set this delivers all the audio I
> ever want. It is not HiFi because the speaker is tailored for voice
> frequency response. If someone wanted they could remove the
> transformer from the unit (this match 600:8 is hard to find) and use
> it to drive a HiFi speaker.

I considered doing that, but decided that the audio wouldn't sound that much better and the LS-166 was just too handy a little box. In fact, I ended up buying The best way to improve the R-390A audio is to get one of Bill Kleronomous's "super audio chassis" replacement. That's definitely on my list!

73,
Tony
K4KY0

<ras@us.net>

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 00:00:22 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 19:00:22 -0500
Message-Id: <9506052354.AA23153@tedb>
From: Jim Specht <specht@test.rb.unisys.com>
Subject: R-390A Meters

Has anyone out there tried to take apart one of the meters used on the 390...I looked at the face on the one made by Simpson and both carrier and vu meters appear to have the same construction. What I would like to do is take the meter face panel which appears to be screwed on and swap it with the panel from the other meter. I have seen a number of the Simpson meters (1ma f/s) at local surplus stores with the same construction as well. I pulled one partially apart and got to the point where the glass face is

(sealed) to the plastic main case body. ??? how can the glass be removed without damage. Anyone have any ideas?

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 00:17:47 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 19:17:47 -0500
Message-Id: <"d0aS:'S000000000*"@MHS>
From: RICHARD_HUMPHREY@hp5200.desk.hp.com
Subject: R-390A Meters

Item Subject: RE: R-390A Meters

>Has anyone out there tried to take apart one of the meters used
>on the 390...I looked at the face on the one made by Simpson and
>. . .

Don't do that. You might regret it someday.

It is general folklore that these meters, if they are the original glow-in-the-dark types, contain hazardous radioactive materials. Don't ever open one.

They're safe enough as long as the case and glass are intact and sealed. I wouldn't carry one in my pocket for several years, or make one into a belt buckle, but on a radio panel two or three feet away, they're OK. But don't let the genie out of the bottle.

Richard

N6NAE

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 01:53:30 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 20:53:30 -0500
Message-Id: <9506060152.AA20972@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov>
From: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov (Roy Morgan)
Subject: Re: R-390A Meters

>

>Has anyone out there tried to take apart one of the meters used
>on the 390.. ...
>What I would like to do is ... swap it with the panel from the other meter.

THEY ARE NOT THE SAME MOVEMENTS!

(At least they have different shunts and unless you solve that problem, owe won't work in place of the other.)

-- Roy --

Roy Morgan / Tech A-266 / NIST / Gaithersburg MD 20899
(National Institute of Standards and Technology, formerly NBS)
301-975-3254 Fax: 301-948-6213 Internet: morgan@speckle.ncsl.nist.gov

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:38:07 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:38:07 -0500
Message-Id: <115674@w5ddl.aara.org>
From: n5off@w5ddl.aara.org
Subject: R-390A PTO Adjustment

I use a frequency counter to align these PTO's. 1 meg ohm load or 50 ohm load doesn't seem to make much difference.

Just set it at the low end (3455 kcs) and turn the coupler exactly 10 turns (this is with the PTO out of the rig of course). Note the high end frequency (2445 kcs or thereabouts). Make an adjustment with the trimmer screw and start over. The object is to get from 3455 kcs to 2455 kcs in exactly 10 turns.

If you want to be ultra cool, you can add the additional challenge of getting each 100 kcs point to hit right on as well. This is done by adjusting the shims on the compensating stack inside. If you want to do this also, post another note :-)

73 est bonne chance de tom n5off

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 03:52:11 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 22:52:11 -0500
Message-Id: <199506060350.AA15259@cruz.com>
From: Bill VanAlstyne <bill@cruz.com>
Subject: R-390A PTO end-point adjustment feedback

Regarding my query on the seemingly wrong procedure in my R-390A manual, Bill McFadden wrote:

>I haven't done this in a couple of years, but I believe the procedure is to
>use the front panel zero adjust control at one end of the dial and the VFO's
>adjustment screw at the other. Repeat until it tracks.

Well, that makes perfect sense to me, but that isn't what the manual says!

But that should work. I think the manual's procedure text is erroneous.

And Tom, N5OFF, wrote:

>I use a frequency counter to align these PTO's. 1 meg ohm load or
>50 ohm load doesn't seem to make much difference.
>
> [procedure deleted]

This sounds like a good way to do it, too. Again, you of course have to go back and forth between the top and bottom of the tuning range. This is what didn't make sense about the procedure as it was written up in the manual.

>If you want to be ultra cool, you can add the additional
>challenge of getting each 100 kcs point to hit right on as
>well. This is done by adjusting the shims on the compensating
>stack inside. If you want to do this also, post another note :-)

Well, I don't know if I could handle not being ultra cool! :-) How far off are the intermediate points, usually? If not by more than 500 Hz or so, I shouldn't think it would be a big deal; one can after all always recalibrate at the closest 100 KHz point, though this is a bit of a pain and definitely *isn't* ultra-cool. OK, tell me the dope! Is it hard to do, or just painstaking?

Thanks guys --
Bill N6FN

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:33:45 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:33:45 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051842.AA23232@thd.tv.tek.com>
From: Bill McFadden <bill@soul.tv.tek.com>
Subject: R-390A VFO endpoint adjustment

>
>The whole procedure appears to be done at the top end of the band, with no
>reference to the bottom end at all... Like, how can you calibrate the VFO's
>frequency range without going back and forth between the top and bottom
>ends?? I must be missing something here!

I haven't done this in a couple of years, but I believe the procedure is to use the front panel zero adjust control at one end of the dial and the VFO's adjustment screw at the other. Repeat until it tracks.

BTW, if you find that you can no longer zero adjust on all bands, you'll have to loosen the linkage between the knob and the VFO and re-center the

adjustment, after which you'll have to redo the end point adjustment. The only time I've ever had to do this was after installing a new VF0.

--

Bill McFadden Tektronix, Inc. P.O. Box 500 MS 58-639 Beaverton, OR 97077
bill@tv.tv.tek.com, ...!tektronix!tv.tv.tek.com!bill Phone: (503) 627-6920
CAUTION: Don't look into laser beam with remaining eye.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:01:38 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:01:38 -0500
Message-Id: <"Macintosh */PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>
From: Scott_Johnson-AZAX60@email.sps.mot.com
Subject: RE>Refurbishing speakers

RE>Refurbishing speakers

6/5/95

I use the services of a local place here in Phoenix that will replace the annulus ring for ten bucks, labor included. You might want to check with local rebuilders before ordering supplies and doing it yourself. The place here is called the Speakershop, (602) 956-1824, talk to Randy. 73, Scott KC7BGE

If you have speakers with foam or rubber surrounds that have deteriorated, you can repair them yourself without reconing. I have purchased several kits for this purpose from:

Stepp Audio Technologies
P.O. Box 1088
Flat Rock, NC 28731
800-747-3692

The work requires a little care but it is relatively easy. I use hi-fi speakers on my R-390A and R-388. I buy high quality ones with rotted foam surrounds for a song. The kits from Stepp that I purchased were \$12.95/ speaker and worked great.

73s Terry O'

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:48:32 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:48:32 -0500
Message-Id: <9505058023.AA802394436@ccmgate.mti.com>

From: TLeonard@ccmgate.mti.com (Leonard, Tim)
Subject: Re[2]: On-line manuals

Bill,

You must be doing something fancy or not using WORD 6.
I regularly move Word 6 docs between the MAC
and PC without any trouble. Typically, these docs are
engineering specs with 100+ pages, figures,
tables, etc.

Tim AA6DQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:19:34 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:19:34 -0500
Message-Id: <v02110107abf8cde3f8da@[140.243.30.128]>
From: steve@hi.com (Steve Byan)
Subject: SP-600 "black tubular" caps

I recall some discussssion here about the high failure rate of the black
tubular paper caps in the SP-600. I just got a set of back issues of
"Hollow State News" and noticed many more comments on the high failure rate
of SP-600 "black tubulars", to the point of a recommendation to replace
every single black cap even if it hasn't yet failed.

I assume that this type of capacitor has a high failure rate in equipment
other than just SP-600's. I've never seen an SP-600, so I'm wondering if
someone can supply a description of the SP-600 style paper caps.

I've been working on an HP-650A test oscillator; it's got paper caps that
have a black plastic case, axial leads, color-coded band markings, about
1/2 inch diameter and 2 inches long (or thereabouts). Are these the
infamous "black tubulars"? So far, they seem to be intact and working.
Should I replace them with mylar caps as a preventative measure?

Thanks,
-Steve

Steve Byan
Hitachi Computer Products (America), Inc.
1601 Trapelo Road
Waltham, MA 02154

internet: steve@hi.com
phone: (617) 890-0444
FAX: (617) 890-4998

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 21:47:18 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 16:47:18 -0500
Message-Id: <69a_9506051318@chigate.fidonet.org>
From: Bill.Cohn@precision.chigate.com (Bill Cohn)
Subject: Starved Rock Hamfest Repo

Just thought I would jot down a few notes on what I saw at the Starved Rock hamfest in Princeton, IL. this Sunday. The weather was great, high in the upper seventies and a clear sky. I had not been to this hamfest since 1969. It is one I won't miss anymore.

Some things I noticed.

HQ110 without clock \$50.00 - Gone
R390 fair \$150.00 - Did not see if it sold.
HQ145 good \$125 - Had not sold when I left.
SX99 - fair to good \$45.00 - this went home with me.
SX99 - Good \$60.00 - not sold when I left.
SX71 - poor to fair with manual \$50.00 - this also went home with me.
Viking I - poor \$60.00 - sold

Lots of Heath gear and Some Drake but I was not looking for that at the time.

I guess I have started a Hallicrafters collection, the SX99 worked after I replaced the 5Y3.

The SX71 will be a bigger project.

I was able to get a box of old misc. Sam's for \$5. many eary ones I did not have.

73 de N9MHT Bill

* OLXWin 1.00a * Join The Antique Radio Club Of Illinois

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:47:54 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:47:54 -0500
Message-Id: <v0211010babdff848edb8@[140.243.30.128]>
From: steve@hi.com (Steve Byan)
Subject: Steve's Want/Trade or Sell list

I'm looking for the following items:

- * Hewlett-Packard 606A signal generator
- * R390A in good condition; less meters is OK
- * HP test equipment catalogs from the 50's and 60's
- * TV-2 tube tester

I have the following items for trade or sale:

- * Dynaco PAS-3A preampifier (kit, fair condition)
- * Dynaco ST-70 amplifier (factory-built, fair condition)
- * Heath SB-614 Monitor Scope (good condition)

Regards,
-Steve

Steve Byan	internet: steve@hi.com
Hitachi Computer Products (America), Inc.	
1601 Trapelo Road	phone: (617) 890-0444
Waltham, MA 02154	FAX: (617) 890-4998

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 21:56:32 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 16:56:32 -0500
Message-Id: <48376.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: Surplus Stores

Ok Guys--I've enjoyed the stories of all the ole time surplus stores in Chicago and elsewhere but being from the south I can't identify with them.. However, does anyone remember the "Goody Pile" in Volens, Va. just north of South Boston?? It was really a pile. The owner of the general store had a large field of 4 or more acres. He went to the military sales and purchased equipment, brought it in on flat bed trucks and dumped it in the field. There were several 10X10 foot slab board storage sheds into which he dumped usually the parts that were still wrapped in the mil packages. You chose the equipment you wanted from the field, sit 3 feet or so up on the parts pile and open the packages and dump what you wanted in a cardboard box and then when you were readdy to leave you would carry it (unless it was a BC-610) to the general store and put it on the outside scale and pay 20 cents a pound for what you got. Still have some of the parts I got as a teenager in the early sixty's. Still have lots of 6C4's. The government warehouses in Richmond and Norfolk were a treasure trove if you ever got to go there with the local fire departments and I did. Still have some ARC-5's that

were new when I picked them up. I (should I tell this?--Oh what the heck) was even given the job of dismanteling (stripping) the BIGGGG Rig off the U.S. Missouri. As I remember it was a Collins Autotune Transmitter with a pair of 750th's ? in the Final, Modulated by another pair. The Drivers were a pair of 813's. I still have the cabinets in my Dad's garage in Va. (my reward for stripping the rig). They made great parts cabinets when we had a basement with greater than 10 foot ceilings. These may be available in the future to someone who would want them. Well anyway what I'm saying is that the surplus hunting was also good in VA. 73 Jim K4CGY

James C. Owen, III

National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)

Bldg 225/B360

Gaithersburg, MD 20899

1-301-975-5623

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:07:51 1995

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:07:51 -0500

Message-Id: <m0sIdiw-0010LCC@spider.lloyd.com>

From: jml@spider.lloyd.com (Jim Lockwood)

Subject: Swan transceiver audio

Gang,

I think I'm having a problem with the receive audio on my Swan 250, 6M SSB rig. Aparently, Swan used a similar audio circuit on several of their rigs, like the 350 and maybe others. So, if you own any Swan transceiver, feel free to jump right in and offer suggestions or opinions

Here's the problem: The 6GK6 audio tube develops a very slight amount of color on its plate after being on for just a couple of minutes. It is very slight; the room lights have to be low to see it, but it's definitely there.

I want to know if this is normal.

Here is what I've done so far:

1. I swapped the audio 6GK6 with the RF driver 6GK6. The problem, if it is one, stays with the audio socket.

2. I looked at the voltages on the audio 6GK6 and found an ambiguity in the Swan manual. The voltage chart in the 250 manual says I should be seeing 260, 260, and -1.5, on the plate, screen, and control grid respectively *however* in the schematic, the screen is tied to a line that is labled "215". For reference, what I am actually seeing in the rig is: 274, 280, and -9. (Yes, the screen is 6 Volts higher than the plate.)

3. I looked up the operating parameters in my GE Essential Characteristics data book. The GE data book says a 6GK6 in Class A should be seeing 250,250, -7.3. Right away, this makes me suspect the plate color is there because the tube is operating waaaaay beyond its dissipation limits due to the higher plate and screen voltages.

4. I checked what few resistors affect the voltages on this tube. The 400 ohm wire wound screen supply resistor (feeding the "215" line) is right on target. The 270K to the -10V bias rail is within spec. Now just for grins, I measured the winding resistance of the audio output transformer and it is 400 Ohms, like the screen resistor, both of which are tied to the same B+ rail.

I am suspicious of two things:

The first is the ambiguity in the Swan manual....what voltage should I *really* be seeing on the screen of the 6GK6?

The second is the audio output transformer. Could it have a partially shorted winding? I normally run the audio gain control almost to mid rotation which is farther than I run the audio gain control on any other receiver I have.

I'm open to comments and suggestions. I'm especially interested in feedback from those adventurous souls who would measure the tube voltages in their own sets, check the 6GK6 tubes in their own sets for color, and who would measure the primary winding resistance of the audio transformer in their own Swan sets.

Thanks and 73,

Jim - km6nk

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:22:43 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:22:43 -0500
Message-Id: <9506051520.AA05777@ihurry.ih.att.com>
From: Michael.J.Knudsen@att.com
Subject: Re: Trigger

Are there any ham radio or suprlus stores LEFT in Chicagoland?
I remember SPectronics in Oak Park a few years ago (they're still in

Milwaukee). Seems there must be at least one recycler of industrial lab electronics around here. --mike k w9nrd

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 13:45:42 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 08:45:42 -0500
Message-Id: <199506051344.IAA08004@uro.theporch.com>
From: kasley@fnal.gov
Subject: Re: Trigger Electronics

>
>to: boatanchors@theporch.com
>
> I was only at Trigger once. They had one feature for the local FM guys that
>I thought was kinda neat.
>
> Back then, 2 metre FM was almost exclusively converted commercial rigs, and
>the vast majority of Chicago FM activity was 146.940 MHz.
>
> As a service to the boys who didn't have a counter or deviation meter, the
>guys at Trigger kept an FM receiver in the front window with oversized meter
>movements attached to measure discriminator zero and deviation. Any time, 24
>hours a day, you could pull up in front of the store, key up on .94, and set
>your mobile's frequency warp trimmer and deviation pot accurately!
>
> I've got a bit of (Trigger memorabilia deleted)
>

> Tom, K9TA

The oversize dev meter was in the window of Spectronics on Garfield Ave.
in Oak Park. Trigger was on the south side of North Ave. just west of Harlem
in River Forest.

Spectronics, with the "red wire special" hanging from the ceiling and piles of
old Motorola turkey roasters, T-powers, and Motracs was far more interesting
to visit than Trigger. Trigger would follow us teenagers around the store to
make sure we didn't spin any knobs.

Paul Kasley, WA9VYB

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 15:30:21 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 10:30:21 -0500
Message-Id: <"Macintosh */PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>
From: Don_Burns-EPUR01@email.mot.com

Subject: Trigger Electronics

As I recall Trigger was on 12th St (Roosevelt Rd) just east of Harlem Av. The guy who originally open this place was for years down at Newark Electric's original west Madison store. He ran the Ham Shack there and his name was Ira Tregger. Since everyone mispronounced his name, when he opened up his place he named it what everybody called him. I got my first sideband exciter from him at Newark, a CE 10B.

--

Don Burns	K4GHD	\	Motorola E-Mail: epur01
Motorola Inc.		\	Internet:epur01@email.mot.com
North American Radio Systems Divn		\	Voice: 305-723-5518
Plantation, FL U.S.A.		\	Fax: 305-723-4343

X.400: /c=us/admd=attmail/prmd=motorola/g=don/s=burns/ddt=id/ddv=epur01/

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 22:29:06 1995

Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 17:29:06 -0500

Message-Id: <9506052108.AA04813@gwt.xyplex.com>

From: thorburn@gwt.xyplex.com (Gary Thorburn)

Subject: Tube info? 3A5

Can a boatanchor be made from cardboard and Fahnestock clips?

As a kid, my dad gave me a little kit based on a 3A5 tube, a 7-pin miniature type. The kit made a regen receiver and MW transmitter, and was my pride and joy for a long while.

I thought it was all lost, but I've recently found the 3A5 tube in my junk box, and the original mimeographed instruxion booklet. Wow, does this bring back great memories! (oh-oh, should I move this to rec.radio.jungian-archetypes ?)

I'd love to find some real specs on this tube, especially the base diagram, and perhaps a clue as to what application it was actually designed for. I believe its a twin-triode with a directly heated tapped cathode; my kit ran off a D-cell and a Burgess B-Battery, probably 45 or 67.5 volts. I had a RCA Receiving Tube manual as a kid, and it seems it wasn't in that book.

Can anyone help?

/****

* Gary W. Thorburn KD1TE

* reply to: gthorburn@eng.xyplex.com
****/

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 23:31:13 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 18:31:13 -0500
Message-Id: <9506052244.AA19260@acs6.acs.ucalgary.ca>
From: "Deane D McIntyre" <dmcintyr@acs.ucalgary.ca>
Subject: Re: Tube info? 3A5

In message <9506052108.AA04813@gwt.xyplex.com> writes:
> Can a boatanchor be made from cardboard and Fahnestock clips?
>
> As a kid, my dad gave me a little kit based on a 3A5 tube,
> a 7-pin miniature type. The kit made a regen receiver and
> MW transmitter, and was my pride and joy for a long while.
>
> I thought it was all lost, but I've recently found the 3A5
> tube in my junk box, and the original mimeographed instruxion
> booklet. Wow, does this bring back great memories! (oh-oh,
> should I move this to rec.radio.jungian-archetypes ?)
>
> I'd love to find some real specs on this tube, especially the
> base diagram, and perhaps a clue as to what application it was
> actually designed for. I believe its a twin-triode with a directly
> heated tapped cathode; my kit ran off a D-cell and a Burgess
> B-Battery, probably 45 or 67.5 volts. I had a RCA Receiving
> Tube manual as a kid, and it seems it wasn't in that book.
>

>From the 1953 ARRL Handbook:

3A5- HF Twin Triode, EIA Base 7BC
Pins 1,7 Filament 4 Filament centre tap
Triode Unit One- Plate pin 6, grid pin 5
Triode Unit Two-Plate pin 2, grid pin 3

Filament 2.8 V @ 110 ma (series) or 1.4V @220 ma (parallel)

Class A Amp (either triode unit):

Plate 90 Volts
Grid Bias -2.5 Volts
Plate current 3.7 ma

Plate Resistance 8300 Ohms
Transconductance 1800 micromhos
Amplification factor 15

I suppose in a regen set one triode was used as the detector and the other as an audio amp.

73, Deane D McIntyre VE6BP0
dmcintyr@acs.ucalgary.ca

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 02:29:04 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 21:29:04 -0500
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.01.2.950605221155.jproc@>
From: jproc@worldlinx.com
Subject: RE: Tube info? 3A5

>I'd love to find some real specs on this tube, especially the
>base diagram, and perhaps a clue as to what application it was
>actually designed for.

Gary,

The 3A5 is a directly heated high frequency dual triode.
Filament voltage is 1.4 V @.22 amps OR 2.8 V @ .11 amps

PER SECTION

Plate voltage 90 v
Plate current 3.7 ma
Plate resistance 8.3 kohms
Transconductance 1800 micromhos
Amplification factor 15
Grid bias -2.5 v
Grid to plate capacitance is 3.2 uuf
Input capacitance is 0.9 uuf
Output capacitance is 1.0 uuf

BASING INFO

Pins 1 & 7 are filament with a centre tap on pin 4

Pin 5 is Grid # 1

Pin 6 is plate #1

Pin 3 is grid #2

Pin 2 is plate # 2

Regards,

Jerry Proc VE3FAB
E-mail: jproc@worldlinux.com
Radio Restoration Volunteer
HMCS Haida Toronto, Ontario

From boatanchors@theporch.com Tue Jun 6 05:33:49 1995
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 00:33:49 -0500
Message-Id: <060595201217Rnf0.79b6@ham.island.net>
From: rsmits@ham.island.net (Robert Smits)
Subject: Re: Vibropolex Help & Offers Wanted

don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com> writes:

>
> Vibroplex Bug s/n 212842. Chrome base, chrome parts and red plastic. Brass
> name tag has bug logo and NY address. All original and excellent.
> 70's vintage?
>
> Let me know what you think....

Early 70's, I should think. I bought one new in 1978, serial 384335.
Mine though, has a gray base.

--
rsmits@ham.island.net (Robert Smits)

"Usenet is like a herd of performing elephants with diarrhea -- massive,
difficult to redirect, awe-inspiring, entertaining, and a source of mind-
boggling amounts of excrement when you least expect it."

--gene spafford, 1992

From boatanchors@theporch.com Mon Jun 5 21:26:32 1995
Date: Mon, 5 Jun 1995 16:26:32 -0500
Message-Id: <Pine.3.07.9506051411.E10090-81000000@cap1.capaccess.org>
From: Mike Cizek <mcizek@CapAccess.org>
Subject: Want Manual & NB-5 for Drake SPR-4

I'm looking for a manual & the NB-5 noise blanker for a Drake SPR-4 receiver. I have a pretty good copy of tha manual, so I'm only interested in the real thing. Drake doesn't have any more. 73,

Mike Cizek K07V